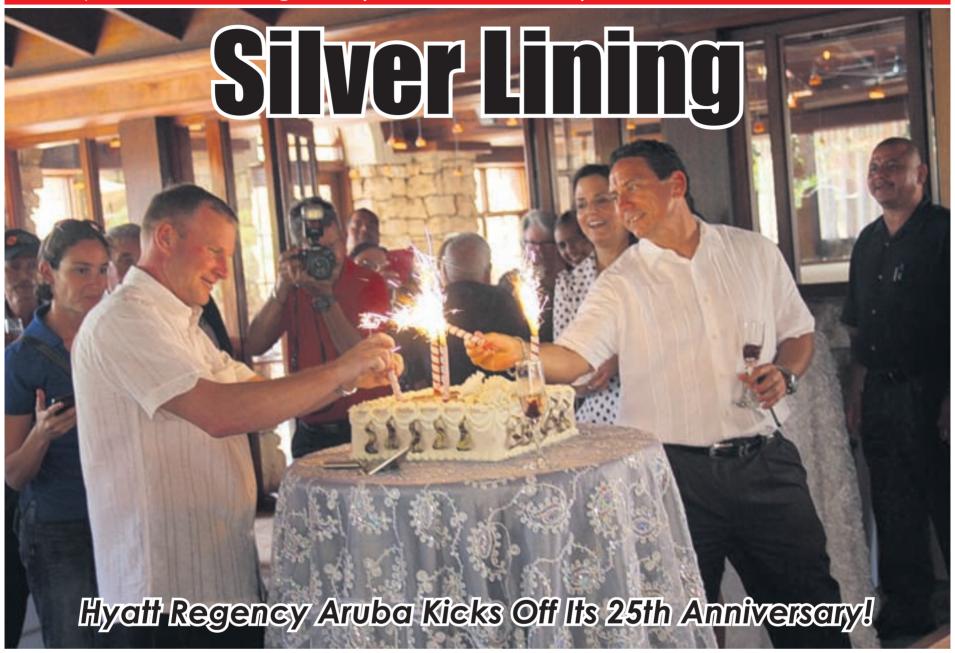
On Top Of The News Email:news@arubatoday.com website: www.arubatoday.com Tel:+297 582-7800 Wednesday, February 4, 2015



Hyatt Regency Aruba Resort Spa & Casino has kicked off its 25th anniversary with multiple major announcements: Joel Bunde has been welcomed as part of the Hyatt Regency Aruba team as the new General Manager, extensive refurbishments around the resort have been recently completed, and to further commemorate this milestone year, Hyatt Regency Aruba is implementing a year-long series of events in honor of its Silver Anniversary centered on giving back to the Aruban community.

(Aruba Today Photo)







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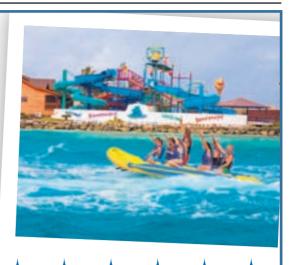
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Obama, King Abdullah vow not to let up against Islamic State



President Barack Obama, right, meets with King Abdullah II of Jordan in the Oval Office of the White House, on Tuesday, Feb. 3, 2015, in Washington. The meeting comes after Jordanian Air Force pilot First Lt. Moaz al-Kasasbeh was executed by the Islamic State group.

(AP Photo/Evan Vucci)

NEDRA PICKLER Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Barack Obama and Jordanian King Abdullah II vowed not to let up in the fight against the Islamic State group Tuesday, as Jordanians mourned the death of a military pilot held captive by the militants. Obama hosted Abdullah at the White House for a hastily arranged meeting, hours after a video emeraed online purportedly showing 26-year-old Lt. Muath Al-Kaseasbeh burned to death by the militant group. Abdullah, who was on a previously scheduled trip to Washington, arrived after nightfall and made he and Obama sat side by side in the Oval Office.

In the meeting, Obama offered "his deepest condolences" to the king over the pilot's death, the White House said. "The president and King Abdullah reaffirmed that the vile murder

of this brave Jordanian will only serve to steel the international community's resolve to destroy ISIL," said White House spokesman Alistair Baskey, using an acronym for the extremist

Al-Kaseasbeh, who fell into the hands of the militants in December when his Jordanian F-16 crashed in Syria, is the only pilot from the U.S.led coalition to have been captured to date.

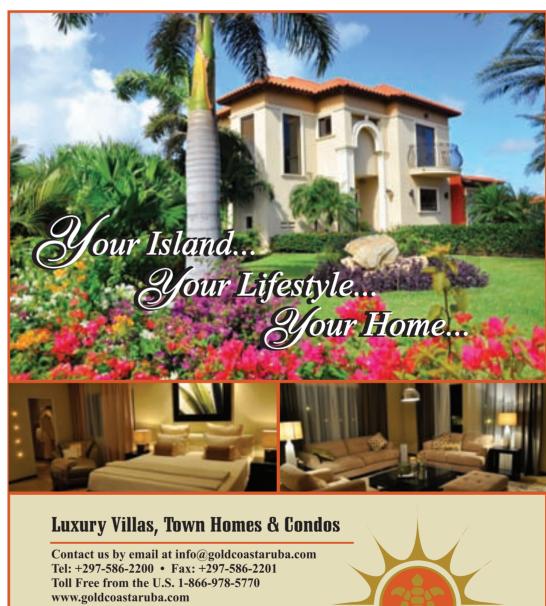
His death sparked outrage in Jordan, where the country's participation in the coalition against the Islamic State group has not been popular. The video emerged following a weeklong drama over a no remarks to reporters as possible prisoner exchange with an al-Qaida operative imprisoned in Jordan.

> In a statement before his meeting with Abdullah, Obama vowed the pilot's death would "redouble the viailance and determination on the part of our global coalition to make

sure they are degraded and ultimately defeated." "Lieutenant Al-Kaseasbeh's dedication, courage and service to his country and family represent universal human values that stand in opposition to the cowardice and depravity

of ISIL, which has been so broadly rejected around the globe," Obama said. Vice President Joe Biden, who held a previously scheduled lunch Abdullah in Washington Tuesday, also condemned the killings and called for

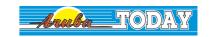
the release of all prisoners held by Islamic State militants. The king also held previously scheduled meetings with U.S. senators. Abdullah, a close U.S. ally, has portrayed the campaign against the extremists as a battle over values.



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Vaccine debate tests first-time White House hopefuls

JULIE PACE AP White House Correspon-

dent

WASHINGTON (AP) — For a pair of first U.S. presidential hopefuls, the sudden injection of the childhood vaccine debate into the 2016 campaign is a lesson in how unexpected issues can become stumbling blocks. Long-held positions can look different under the glare of the national spotlight.

New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie and Kentucky Sen. Rand Paul, both weighing bids for the Republican presidential nomination, struggled this week to articulate their views on the emotionally charged vaccination controversy. Christie, in the midst of a three-day trip Britain, canceled plans to speak to reporters Tuesday after his comments a day earlier caused a stir. Paul, a libertarian-leaning eye doctor, pushed back on criticism of his initial assertion that he was aware of "many tragic cases of walking, talking, normal children who wound up with profound mental disorders after vaccines." He issued a statement Tuesday denying immunizations cause disorders, saying they were just "temporally related." He also posted a photo on Twitter of himself getting a booster for a vaccine.

While the vaccination de-



Dr. Anthony Fauci, Director, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, National Institutes of Health, testifies before the House Energy and Commerce subcommittee hearing looking into the effectiveness of vaccines in the wake of a measles outbreak and the exceptionally severe flu season, on Capitol Hill in Washington, Tuesday, February 3, 2015.

(AP Photo/Molly Riley)

bate has long stoked passions, the matter has taken on new resonance amid a frightening measles outbreak that has sickened more than

100 people across the U.S. and in Mexico. The outbreak has revived the discussion about parents who choose not to vaccinate their chil-

dren, some out of fear that vaccines can lead to autism and developmental disorders — a claim that has been vigorously debunked by medi-

cal researchers.

It's unclear whether the vaccine issue will have a long shelf life in a White House campaign that is only just beginning. But the ways prospective candidates handle unanticipated issues can help determine whether those subjects blow over or become nagging distractions that contenders can't shake. "Every day you want to go out with a message to voters, and every day there are a dozen trapdoors you don't want to fall into," said Robert Gibbs, a top adviser for both of Barack Obama's presidential campaigns. "If you look at Chris Christie and Rand Paul, they fell into the trapdoors yesterday."

Christie's and Paul's assertions that parents should have some choice in basic vaccinations have put other potential 2016 contenders on the spot on a topic that was largely absent from political discussions until this week and does not break down along party lines.

Christie declines to take questions on final day of UK trip

Theatre.

JILL COLVIN
Associated Press

LONDON (AP) — New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie canceled plans to talk with reporters in London on Tuesday after his comments

on vaccinations sparked a political flap at home.

The Republican governor and likely presidential contender had originally been scheduled to address the media three times during the final day of his threeday trip to the United Kingdom. Instead, the availabilities vanished from his schedule, which included lunch with the chancellor of the exchequer and a visit to the famous Globe

"Is there something you don't understand about, 'No questions?'" Christie snapped when a reporter asked whether he'd discussed the Islamic State group during his meetings with dignitaries during the visit to the Globe.

"We're just not having press availability today," his communications chief Maria Comella said when asked for an explanation. Billed as an official trade mission, the trip doubled as a chance for Christie, a likely presidential contender, to broaden his foreign policy resume and build relationships with world leaders. But coverage of the trip has been dominated by remarks he made Monday after touring a pharmaceutical facility, that "parents need to have

some measure of choice" when it comes to whether to vaccinate their children. Christie's office quickly backtracked, releasing a statement that declared that "with a disease like measles there is no question kids should be vaccinated." But the comments drew scorn, first across social media and later from medical professionals, newspaper editorial boards and national Democrats, who accused the governor of ignoring medical science.

A measles outbreak centered in California has sickened more than 100 people, focusing attention on parents who choose not to vaccinate their children. Some do so for religious or philosophical reasons, while others cite a concern that vaccines can lead to autism and developmental disorders — a link debunked by rigorous medical research.

Trips to London have sometimes been problematic for Republican presidential contenders.





'Texas 7' fugitive scheduled for execution Wednesday

MICHAEL GRACZYK **Associated Press** HUNTSVILLE, Texas (AP) —

A convicted robber who was already a three-time felon with a violent history when he was locked up, was serving a 99-year prison term when he joined six fellow convicts in Texas' biggest prison break ever. Now, Donald Newbury is set for execution Wednesday for the shooting death of a suburban Dallas police officer during a sporting goods store robbery the fugitives carried out after their escape in 2000.

Newbury, 52, would be the third Texas prisoner put to death this year and the third of the notorious "Texas 7" gang executed for the slaying of 29-year-old Irving officer Aubrey Hawkins.

The U.S. Supreme Court had an appeal Tuesday from Newbury's attorney, William Harris, who told the iustices Newbury hasn't had a "meaningful opportunity" and sufficient courtapproved money to develop a claim that his trial lawyers were deficient for not showing jurors significant psychological evidence of his abusive childhood.

The Texas attorney general's office in opposing the appeal said Newbury has



This undated handout photo provided by the Texas Department of Criminal Justice shows Donald Newbury. Newbury, one of the fugitives in the notorious "Texas 7" prison gang, is set for execution Wednesday, Feb. 4, 2015 for the slaying of a suburban Dallas police officer during the escaped prisoners' holdup of a sporting goods store more than 14 years ago.

(AP Photo/Texas DCJ)

been given court reviews and court-authorized money and "has not pointed to any facts" that would prove he's innocent.

Newbury was spared from lethal injection three years ago by a Supreme Court reprieve.

Evidence showed the gang led by George Rivas, who was serving 17 life prison terms, overpowered workers Dec. 13, 2000, at the Connally Unit of the

Texas Department of Criminal Justice, about 60 miles (96 kilometers) south of San Antonio.

Eleven days later on Christmas Eve night, and after robberies as far away as Houston,

Hawkins was shot 11 times and run over with a stolen SUV when he interrupted the gang's holdup of the sporting goods store. The fugitives got away with \$70,000, 44 firearms, ammunition and winter clothing. They also took jewelry and wallets from store employees who were closing up for the evening.

They were hunted down a month later in Colorado where one of them, Larry Harper, killed himself rather than surrender.

According to court re- again.

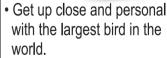
cords, 12 loaded firearms were found in the Holiday Inn room in Colorado Springs where Newbury was arrested with escapee Joseph Garcia.

Newbury contended he didn't shoot to kill Hawkins and pointed his gun far above the officer's head.

Prison records show Newbury has had dozens of disciplinary cases since arriving on death row in 2002. Most were defined as major, such as assaulting corrections officers, possessing weapons and contraband, and creating disturbances. At least one was a riot case.

In a 2003 interview with The Associated Press, Newbury said he would still escape if he could do it all over





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Revenge-porn website operator Bollaert convicted in San Diego

SAN DIEGO (AP) — A man Los Angeles man who posthas been convicted of running a "revenge porn" website where people posted nude pictures of their ex-lovers, who then had to pay the man to take down the images.

Kevin Bollaert, 28, was found guilty Monday of 27 counts, including identity theft and extortion, and faces up to 20 years in pris-

able to reach verdicts on two charges of identity. The attorney general's ofa judge declared a mistrial on the counts.

It was believed to be the first conviction of a revenge porn website operator, although two months ago a

ed a topless photo of his ex-girlfriend on Facebook was sentenced to a year in jail for violating California's new revenge porn law.

That law was enacted in October 2013, after the incidents for which Bollaert was charged.

It makes it a misdemeanor to post identifiable nude pictures of someone else online without their permis-The San Diego County Su-sion and with the intent of perior Court jury was un- causing serious emotional distress or humiliation.

theft and conspiracy, and fice believes Bollaert's actions were more serious and merited more than the one year in prison permitted for a misdemeanor, spokesman David Beltran said in an email Tuesday. 🔲







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NY attorney general targets popular herbal supplements

MARY ESCH Associated Press ALBANY, New York (AP) —

Bottles of Walmart-brand echinacea, an herb said to ward off colds, were found to contain no echinacea at all. GNC-brand bottles of St. John's wort, touted as a cure for depression, held rice, garlic and a tropical houseplant, but not a trace of the herb.

In fact, DNA testing on hundreds of bottles of storebrand herbal supplements sold in New York state as treatments for everything from memory loss to prostate trouble found that

four out of five contained none of the herbs on the label. Instead, they were packed with cheap fillers such as wheat, rice, beans or houseplants.

Based on the testing commissioned by his office, New York Attorney General Eric Schneiderman said Tuesday he has sent letters to the four major store chains involved — GNC, Target, Walmart and Walgreens — demanding that they immediately stop selling adulterated or mislabeled dietary supplements.

Schneiderman said the



A man leaves a GNC store, Tuesday, Feb. 3, 2015 in New York. Numerous store brand supplements aren't what their labels claim to be, an ongoing investigation of popular herbal supplements subjected to DNA testing has found, New York Attorney General Eric Schneiderman said Tuesday.

(AP Photo/Mark Lennihan)

supplements pose serious risks. People who have allergies or are taking certain medications can suffer dangerous reactions from herbal concoctions that contain substances not listed on the label, he said.

"This investigation makes one thing abundantly clear: The old adage 'buyer beware' may be especially true for consumers of herbal supplements," the attorney general said. The herbal supplement in-

dustry criticized the method used to analyze the samples and raised questions about the reliability of the findings.

Walmart's vice president of Health & Wellness, Carmen Bauza, said testing by Walmart suppliers hasn't revealed any issues with the relevant products, but the company will comply with the attorney general's request to stop selling them in New York.

"We take this matter very seriously and will be conducting side-by-side analysis because we are 100 percent committed to providing our customers safe products," Bauza said.

Walgreen pledged to cooperate with the attorney general, who asked the store chains for detailed information on production and quality control.



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2 accounts in drug site closing arguments

LARRY NEUMEISTER Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — A prosecutor urged jurors in closing arguments Tuesday to follow the "digital fingerprints" of a San Francisco man who created the underground website Silk Road and to convict him of operating a worldwide online drug network, but a defense lawyer countered that evidence proves his client's innocence.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Serrin Turner told the Manhattan federal court jury that prosecutors in the threeweek trial overwhelmingly proved 30-year-old Ross William Ulbricht created the site and operated it for nearly three years, until his

2013 arrest.

"He custom built Silk Road to be an online storefront for drug dealers," Turner said. "He manned the cash register to make sure he got his cut from every sale."

Turner said jurors should look at evidence from Ulbricht's laptop computer, his nightstand, his social media accounts, his trash can and "everywhere else you've seen his digital fingerprints."

Ulbricht's attorney, Joshua Dratel, said his client quit Silk Road soon after creating it to sell anything on the Internet and before the website was overrun by drug dealers.

"Ross Ulbricht is not guilty

of each and every count in the indictment," Dratel said of charges carrying a potential penalty of life in prison.

The lawyer told jurors to distrust some evidence because "the Internet is not what it seems." He noted that an investigator — the trial's first witness — established dozens of identities on Silk Road.

"You never know who precisely is on the other side of that computer screen," he said. The government accused Ulbricht of enabling more than 1 million drug deals on Silk Road and earning about \$18 million by connecting dealers with customers they could never find on the street.





US Financial Front:

American home price gains dip in December on slower sales pace

C. S. RUGABER
AP Economics Writer
WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S.
home values rose at a
modest pace in December, a sign there are too
few potential buyers to bid
up prices.

Real estate data provider CoreLogic says home prices rose 5 percent in December from 12 months earlier. That is down from the 5.5 percent price gain recorded in November. It's much lower than the double-digit gains that occurred last year.

Yet those much larger increases in early 2014 priced many potential buyers out of the market. Sales of existing homes actually slipped last year, after several years of gains. There is a bright side to the price slowdown, however: Smaller price increases, along with lower mortgage rates, may spur a rebound in sales this year. The biggest yearly gains were in Colorado, Texas, New York, Nevada and Michigan. Just three states saw prices fall compared with 12 months earlier: Maryland, Vermont and Connecticut.

The state data also reflects a seasonally adjusted annual pace of 5.04 million. Increases. Prices rose 7.1 percent in Nevada, after jumping more than 20 percent early last year.

A seasonally adjusted annual pace of 5.04 million. Many economists forecast sales will rise to about 5.2 million this year. Mortgage rates have fallen

"As the year progresses, we expect upward pressure as low inventories and more first-time buyers drive up home prices," Anand Nallathambi, CEO of Core-Logic, said.

Nationwide, home prices are still 13.4 percent below the peak reached in April 2006, before the housing bust. There are 27 states that are at or within 10 percent of their peaks, CoreLogic said.

Sales of existing homes slipped 3.1 percent last year to 4.9 million. But this year, economists expect sales will get a boost from lower mortgage rates, healthy hiring, and lower down payment requirements from mortgage giants Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac.

The pickup may take a few months to appear. Signed contracts to buy homes slid in December, according to the National Association of Realtors. Signed contracts usually result in final sales one-to-two months later.

Still, other recent data on housing suggests that sales and construction are on the upswing. While sales of existing homes fell in 2014, they picked up in December, increasing 2.4 percent from the previous month to a seasonally adjusted annual pace of 5.04 million. Many economists forecast sales will rise to about 5.2 million this year.

Mortgage rates have fallen for four straight weeks and the average rate on a 30-year fixed mortgage is just 3.63 percent. □



New homes under construction are shown for sale in Charlotte, N.C. Real estate data provider CoreLogic reported on December home prices, on Tuesday, Feb. 3, 2015.

(AP Photo/Chuck Burton)

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Coke bets on 'premium milk' to boost declining category

CANDICE CHOI
AP Food Industry Writer
NEW YORK (AP) — Coke is
coming out with premium
milk that has more protein
and less sugar than regular.
And it's betting people will
pay twice as much for it.

The national rollout of Fairlife over the next several weeks marks Coca-Cola's entry into the milk case in the U.S. and is one way the world's biggest beverage maker is diversifying its offerings as Americans continue turning away from soft drinks.

It also comes as people increasingly seek out some type of functional boost from their foods and drinks, whether it's more fiber, antioxidants or protein. That has left the door open for Coke step into the milk cat-

egory, where the differences between options remain relatively minimal and consumption has been declining for decades.

"It's basically the premiumization of milk," Sandy Douglas, president of Coca-Cola North America, said at an analyst conference in November. If developed properly, Douglas said it is the type of product that "rains money."

Fairlife, which Coca-Cola formed in partnership with dairy cooperative Select Milk Producers in 2012, says its milk goes through a filtration process that's akin the way skim milk is made. Filters are used to separate the various components in milk

Then, more of the favorable components are add-



Fairlife milk products appear on display in the dairy section of an Indianapolis grocery store. Fairlife, which is rolling out nationally in coming weeks, is the product of a joint venture between Select Milk Producers, a dairy cooperative, and Coca-Cola. The product is filtered to have more protein and less sugar than regular milk.

(AP Photo/Michael Conroy)

ed, while the less desirable ones are kept out.

The result is a drink that Fairlife says is lactose free and has 50 percent more protein, 30 percent more calcium and 50 percent less sugar than regular milk.

The same process is used make Fairlife's Core Power, a drink marketed to athletes that has even more protein and calcium than Fairlife milk.

Sue McCloskey, who developed the system used to make Fairlife with her husband Mike McCloskey, said Fairlife will be marketed more broadly to women who are the "gatekeepers" for their families' nutritional needs.

Even while touting its nutritional advantages, however, Fairlife will need to be careful about communicating how its drink is made. Jonas Feliciano, senior beverage analyst for market researcher Euromonitor, noted people want drinks that "do something for me," but that Fairlife's juiced-up nutritional stats may make people

hesitant about how natural it is.

"They have to explain that this is not an abomination of nature," Feliciano said. Already, Fairlife has been

subject to some teasing. After the drink was referenced in Coke's analyst presentation, comedian Stephen Colbert referred to it as "extra expensive science milk" and made fun of the elaborate way it's made.

"It's like they got Frankenstein to lactate," he said.

Colbert also took a dig at the wholesome image Fairlife is trying to project, noting that it's made by the "nature loving health nuts at Coca-Cola." That may explain why Coca-Cola is distancing itself from the product; a representative for the Atlanta-based company referred questions to Fairlife's outside representative.

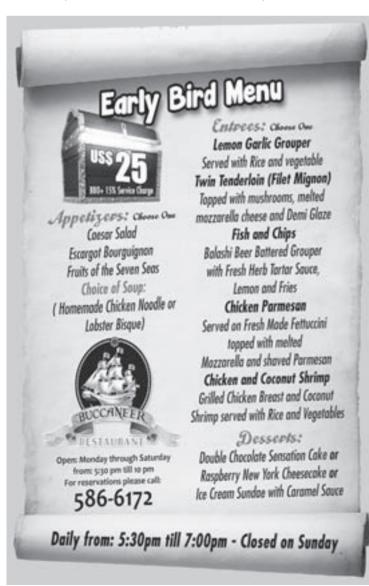
In a phone interview, Fairlife CEO and former Coke executive Steve Jones said he thinks his company can help reverse the ongoing decline in milk consump-

tion by offering a superior product. Major retailers including Wal-Mart, Target, Kroger and Safeway have agreed to carry it and Coca-Cola's Minute Maid team plans to make it available wherever milk is sold.

The drink, which comes in a sleek plastic bottle reminiscent of milk cartons, has already started appearing on shelves and is expected to continue rolling out nationally over the next several weeks.

At a supermarket in Indianapolis, a 52-ounce bottle of Fairlife was being sold for \$4.59.

By comparison, the national average cost for a half-gallon of milk, which is 64 ounces, is \$2.18, according to the USDA. For organic milk, the average is \$3.99. Fairlife is just one of many ventures by Coca-Cola, which also recently took stakes in energy drink maker Monster Beverages and Keurig Green Mountain, which makes single-serving coffee machines and pods.





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Ex-criminal turned back in Turkey attacks 3 French soldiers



Soldiers stand guard after an attacker with a knife hidden in his bag attacked three soldiers on an anti-terror patrol in front of a Jewish community center in Nice, southern France, Tuesday Feb. 3, 2015. France has been on high alert since the attacks in the Paris region by three Islamic extremists that left 20 people dead, including the gunmen.

(AP Photo/Lionel Cironneau)

JAMEY KEATEN Associated Press

PARIS (AP) — A former criminal who had been blocked by French and Turkish police from traveling along a route used by jihadi fighters on Tuesday allegedly attacked three French soldiers with a knife outside a Jewish community center in southern France, officials said.

France's counterterrorism agency last week flagged suspect, Moussa Coulibaly, to Turkish authorities before he flew on Jan. 28 on a one-way ticket to Turkey, a transit point for jihadis from Europe to join Islamic extremist aroups fighting in Syria and Iraq, one French security official said.

Coulibaly and a suspected accomplice were detained after the attack on the soldiers, who were conpatrol in front of a Jewish community center in Nice as part of stepped-up security measures since a threeday spree of deadly terror attacks in and around Paris last month.

The incident pointed to improved coordination between French and Turkish

authorities in combatting the movement of wouldbe jihadis, while also raising the specter that those who don't make it to Iraq and Syria might try to wreak violence at home.

After his return home, French authorities were unable to turn up enough evidence against Coulibaly to open a legal case against him. Agnes Thibault-Lecuivre, a spokeswoman for the Paris prosecutor's office, which handles terrorism cases, said Coulibaly had previously been convicted six times on charges including theft, violence, illegal drug use and insulting police — but not terrorism. The security official said Coulibaly had committed those crimes in the northeastern city of Mulhouse between 2006 and 2009.

The attacker was armed with "two huge knives that ducting an anti-terrorism actually resembled more a machete," said Philippe Pradel, a security official at Nice city hall, on BFM TV. "He freely attacked a soldier, but the knife was ineffective because the soldier was wearing a flak jacket. So then he tried to attack his face."

In a text message to The

Associated Press, Thibault-Lecuivre said there was no family relation between Coulibaly and Amedy Coulibaly, who killed four hostages in a kosher supermarket in Paris and gunned down a policewoman as part of the terrorism rampage last month.

In a joint statement, the defense and interior ministers said one soldier was injured in the face and another, who rushed to the aid of his colleague, was injured in the forearm in the attack in Nice. Police reinforcements then stepped in to arrest the attacker, it said.

Authorities were investigating a possible motive.

France has been on high alert since the attacks in Paris by three Islamic extremists that left 20 people dead, including the gunmen. More than 10,000 soldiers have been deployed around the country to protect sensitive locations, including major shopping areas, synagogues, mosques and transit hubs. Earlier Tuesday, French authorities arrested seven men and a woman suspected of being involved in sending fighters to join Islamic extremists in Syria. Interior Minister Bernard Cazeneuve said those arrested in the Paris and Lyon areas were not suspected of links to the Jan. 7-9 terror attacks.



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Greece braces for talks with Germany amid market relief

D. GATOPOULOS **COLLEEN BARRY Associated Press**

ATHENS, Greece (AP) — Greece's new anti-bailout government confirmed it will hold meetings with lead lender — and critic - Germany this week after markets and European governments reacted with relief to alternatives proposed in Athens to a hard debt write-off.

Finance Minister Yanis Varoufakis said he will travel to Germany on Wednesday to meet European Central Bank President Mario Draghi in Frankfurt and German counterpart Wolfgang Schaeuble in Berlin the following day.

Greece's left-wing Syriza party won general elections eight days ago on a pledge to ax more than



Italian Premier Matteo Renzi, right, and Greek Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras shake hands for photographers before a meeting at Rome's Palazzo Chigi government office, Tuesday, Feb. 3, 2015. Tsipras and Greek Finance Minister, Yanis Varoufakis, were in Rome Tuesday for talks with govern-

(AP Photo/Andrew Medichini)

hands belies that denial.

UN criticizes Ukraine fighting; raises toll to 5,358

PETER LEONARD **Associated Press** ARTEMIVSK, Ukraine (AP)

— The United Nations on Tuesday sharply criticized both the Ukrainian government and the pro-Russian rebels for turning bus stops, schools, markets and hospitals into battlegrounds where civilians are getting killed.

Indiscriminate shelling and an escalation in the fighting in eastern Ukraine have killed at least 224 civilians in the past three weeks alone, the U.N. said, rais- as well. ing the overall death toll to He blamed the high civilian 5,358 people since April.

Hostilities between Russianbacked separatists and Ukrainian troops resumed with a vengeance in January after a month of relative calm. The latest peace

talks broke down Saturday, stronghold of Donetsk said with both sides blaming the other for prolonging the fighting.

"Bus stops and public transport, marketplaces, schools and kindergartens, hospitals and residential areas have become battlegrounds ... in clear breach of international humanitarian law," U.N.

High Commissioner for Human Rights Zeid Ra'ad Al Hussein said, adding that 545 civilians were wounded in the last three weeks

death toll on "the indiscriminate shelling of residential areas in both governmentcontrolled territory and in areas controlled by the armed groups."

Rebels in the separatist

Tuesday that artillery fire killed at least eight people and wounded 22 others in the past day, while Ukrainian military spokesman Andriy Lysenko said five servicemen had been killed and 27 wounded in the same period.

The rebels' main offensive is now directed at Debaltseve, a railway junction between the rebel-held cities of Luhansk and Donetsk. Separatists say they are not planning to storm Debaltseve itself because of the potential for civilian casual-

Ukraine accuses Russia of arming the rebels, a charge that Russia denies. But Western military experts say the sheer amount of heavy weapons in rebel President Barack Obama has so far opposed sending lethal assistance to aid Ukraine's government, but a senior administration official told The Associated Press the surge in fighting has spurred the White House to review that policy. But German Chancellor Angela Merkel reiterated Tuesday in Berlin that Germany would not deliver lethal weapons to Ukraine, saying she intends to focus on finding a "diplomatic solution" to the conflict.

Ukrainian Prime Minister Arseniy Yatsenyuk, meanwhile, signed a decree abolishing national ID travel between Ukraine and Russia, saying Ukraine needed to tighten its controls along the border.

half its debt to eurozone lenders.

But Varoufakis told the Financial Times newspaper that Greece was proposing alternatives included exchanging debt to bailout creditors for repayment linked to growth, as well as using interest-only "perpetual" bonds.

"We will use all the means at our disposal to reach our target, and that target is to reduce the debt ... (regardless) of the name and euphemisms it is given to make it more digestible," Varoufakis, who is on a tour of European capitals, said in Rome late Tuesday.

The news nudged investors into a buying spree.

The Athens Stock Exchange roared up 11.3 percent, leading a European rally, while Greek borrowing rates also eased.

"After a very rocky start last week, the new Greek government is faring better this week," Berenberg Bank analyst Holger Schmieding said. "The charm offensive of the new finance minister Varoufakis seems to be paying off in financial markets."

European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker also appeared relieved, arguing Europe would "have to adapt a certain number of our policies" to accommodate Greece.

Germany has flatly ruled out Greek debt torgiveness. But calming tension with the new Tsipras government, German Chancellor Angela Merkel said on a visit to Singapore that there would be "sufficient opportunities" to discuss the new proposals.





Argentine prosecutor considered call for president's arrest

PETER PRENGAMAN **Associated Press BUENOS AIRES, Argentina**

(AP) — Investigators examining the death of a prosecutor who accused Argentine President Cristina Fernandez of agreeing to shield the alleged masterminds of a 1994 terror bombing said Tuesday they have found a draft document he wrote requesting her arrest.

Chief investigator Viviana Fein said the draft detention request was found in a trash bin of the apartment where Alberto Nisman's body was discovered on Jan. 18. It was not included in a complaint Nisman had filed in federal court days earlier. Nisman was found dead of a gunshot wound in his bathroom hours be-



Argentina's President Cristina Fernandez, sitting at the Casa Rosada government palace in Buenos Aires, Argentina. Investigators examining the death of a prosecutor who accused Fernandez of agreeing to shield the alleged masterminds of a 1994 terror bombing said Tuesday they have found a draft document he wrote requesting her arrest.

(AP Photo/Rodrigo Abd)

Congress to detail his allegations that Fernandez agreed to protect those center. The attack, which

fore he was to appear in responsible for the 1994 bombing of Buenos Aires' largest Jewish community unsolved.

Fernandez has dismissed the allegations against her. Fein at first denied the existence of the document requesting the president's arrest after Argentina's Clarin newspaper published an article about it on Sunday. Cabinet chief Jorge Capitanich ripped up the article in front of reporters on Monday and said it was a lie produced by the "opposition media."

But Clarin then published a copy of the draft, which was dated from June 2014. It said Nisman also had considered requesting arrest orders against Fernandez's foreign minister, Hector Timerman, and other officials in the government. The final complaint Nisman

killed 85 people, remains submitted to judicial authorities called for Fernandez and Timerman to face questions in court instead. On Tuesday, Fein clarified her earlier statement, acknowledging the existence of the draft document and saving she made an error of "terminology and interpretation," and there had been a miscommunication with her office.

> "The words I should have used are: 'I know that there was a draft'" of a document, she said. But she said its existence "is not important enough to change the course of the investigation." Fernandez's government and the Grupo Clarin, which owns the newspaper, have often clashed and the Nisman case has reignited the dispute.

Croatia, Serbia cleared of genocide in Hague

MARLISE SIMONS © 2015 New York Times

PARIS - The highest court of the United Nations ruled Tuesday that neither Croatia nor Serbia committed genocide against each other's peoples when they waged war during the breakup of Yugoslavia in the early 1990s.

The two separate rulings were the result of civil lawsuits that both countries had filed at the court, the International Court of Justice at The Hague. Each claimed the other had violated the Genocide Convention. Croatia, moreover, demanded extensive reparations for war damages.

Peter Tomka, the presid-

who read out the verdicts, spoke of the killings of civilians and the widespread destruction committed by the forces from both sides. But he said the large-scale operations to displace people in the two countries genocide.

"Genocide requires the intent to destroy a group," he said, "not to inflict damage on it or to remove the population."

The rulings did not come as a surprise, and even during the drawn-out proceedings, lawyers from the opposing teams said privately they had little expectation of winning.

The International Criminal

ing judge from Slovakia Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia, a specially created tribunal that has spent almost two decades trying criminal cases related to the violence of the 1990s, has not convicted anyone for genocide in Serbia or Croatia, only in Bosnia.

did not meet the criteria for The findings by the International Court of Justice a civil court that settles disputes between nations and deals largely with treaty violations, leaned heavily on the special tribunal's findings.

Officials from both countries who attended the solemn session in The Hague put on a good face after the almost two-hour reading, which was broadcast on the U.N. website. \square



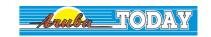
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Venezuela begins occupation of private supermarket chain



People line up outside the Dia a Dia supermarket in hopes of buying coffee, oil, precooked corn flour, detergent and fabric softener as a National guard soldier stands guard in the Propatria neighborhood of Caracas, Venezuela, Tuesday, Feb. 3, 2015. The government is temporarily taking over the Dia a Dia supermarket chain as part of a crackdown on private businesses it blames for worsening shortages and long lines.

(AP Photo/Ariana Cubillos)

HANNAH DREIER Associated Press CARACAS, Venezuela (AP) National guardsmen a military-style occupation. The South American coun-

and state price adjusters with an unusual goal: Makfanned out across Venezuela Wednesday to impose enough sugar.

ing sure shoppers can buy

try's socialist administration temporarily took over the Dia a Dia supermarket chain as part of a crackdown on the private businesses it blames for worsening shortages and long lines. Embattled President Nicolas Maduro says rightwing owners are purposely making shopping a nightmare by hoarding goods and removing checkout stations. He has promised to jail any business owner found to be fomenting economic chaos.

Two executives of Venezuela's largest drugstore chain, Farmatodo, were detained over the weekend as part of an investigation by price-control authorities.

On Monday night, Congress President Diosdado Cabello said officials had arrested Dia a Dia's owner and taken over its 35 stores "for the protection of Venezuelans.'' By Tuesday morning, armed soldiers

were overseeing lines for bags of sugar at a Dia a Dia location near the presidential palace.

Many economists blame price and currency controls for causing the economic distortions plaguing the country at a time when falling oil prices are battering its revenues. Analysts see this week's moves against business owners as an attempt to drive home Maduro's counter-narrative that the right-wing is waging an economic war. "The government is starting to prepare for a social explosion," said Diego Moya-Ocampos, an analyst with the London-based consulting firm IHS Global Insight. "They're trying to channel all the social discontent against the private sector." Many Venezuelans agree with Maduro. Even Dia a Dia branch manager Carlos Barrios said it was possible that his bosses were hoarding. He'd seen the photos government workers had posted outside his store of pallets of sugar, corn flour and toilet paper apparently sitting at the chain's central warehouse. The administration has a history of temporarily taking control of private enterprises. Just ahead of a key 2013 election, Maduro ordered electronics stores to begin selling goods at give-away prices. But this latest crackdown may reverberate more widely among the business class, because it has added the threat of imprisonment to the always present possibility of expropriation,

Moya-Ocampos said.

Cuba publishes first photos of Fidel Castro in 5 months

ANDREA RODRIGUEZ M. WEISSENSTEIN **Associated Press**

HAVANA (AP) — Cuba has published the first photos of Fidel Castro in more than five months, showing the took place on Jan. 23. to be a lively conversation with a university student.

Nearly two dozen images were published virtually simultaneously on the websites of Cuba's main state media outlets around midnight Monday. In them, Castro is seated and dis-

cussing current events with the head of the main Cuban student union. A firstperson account by student leader Randy Perdomo Garcia says the meeting ing abreast of the news

88-year-old former leader The photos are the first im- ercises, and he engaged engaged in what appears ages of the revolutionary Perdomo in a wide-ranging leader since a set of photos came out in August showing him talking with Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro. Perdomo said that he and Castro met for more than three hours in the former leader's house after an

anniversary of Castro starting his studies at the University of Havana.

The student leader said Castro said that he is keepand performing daily exdiscussion of topics including international politics, agriculture, astronomy, and even Namibia's donation of animals to Cuba's National Zoo.

Perdomo said the two men discussed the release of event celebrating the 70th three Cuban intelligence

agents as part of the Dec. 17 declaration by Cuba and the United States that they would move to re-establish full diplomatic relations. The photos show Castro examining a newspaper report on their release.

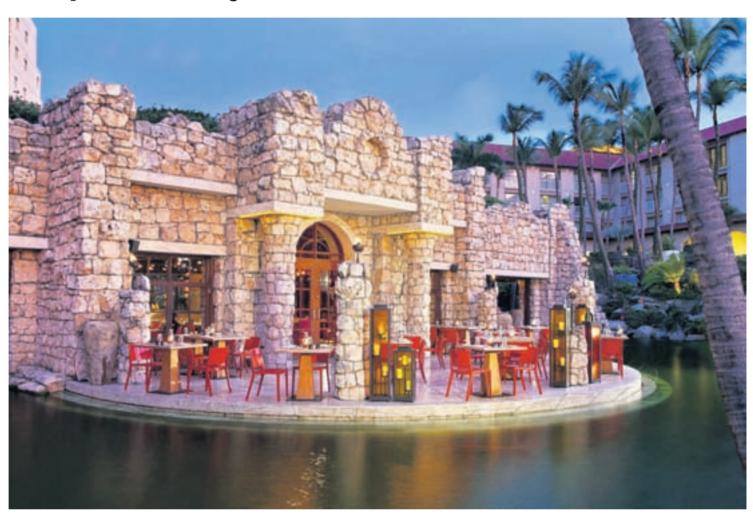
"He's full of life, he keeps up his exercises and he reads closely," Perdomo told The Associated Press on Tuesday. He said that Castro rose from his seat without help, read several articles without help and remembered details of past events with astonishing recall.



Hyatt Regency Aruba Resort, Spa & Casino Celebrates 25th Anniversary With Major Announcements

-For Its Silver Anniversary, Hyatt Regency Aruba **Welcomes a New General** Manager, Completes Hotel Renovations, and Announces a Year-Long Series of Events.

PALM BEACH - Aruba's leading beachfront resort, Hyatt Regency Aruba Resort Spa & Casino, is kicking off its 25th anniversary with multiple major announcements. Joel Bunde became part of the Hyatt Regency Aruba team as the new General Manager in January, and extensive refurbishments around the resort were recently completed. To further commemorate this milestone year, Hyatt Regency Aruba is implementing a yearlong series of events in honor of its Silver Anniversary centered on giving back to the Aruban community. Joining the Hyatt brand





Joel Bunde, the newly appointed General Manager of Hyatt Regency Aruba. A more than 20-year veteran of the Hyatt hospitality fam-

in this celebratory year is ily, Bunde brings a wealth oversees all aspects of the of experience, expertise and passion for the hotel brand to Hvatt Reaency Aruba. In his new role as General Manager, Bunde

resort's operations, including food and beverage, staff management, recruitment and development, amongst other daily operational tasks.

"I am pleased to be in Aruba working with a brand that I have long respected and in a community I truly admire," said Joel Bunde. "We couldn't have made it to this momentous anniversary without the help of hotel staff and support from our local friends and peers.

I look forward to celebrating and further developing the hotel's reputation as Aruba's leading beachfront resort."

Having gone through an extensive renovation process last year, Hyatt Regency Aruba is proud to reveal that all planned uparades have been finalized in conjunction with its 25th anniversary celebration. The Regency Ballroom has been completely re-done after a multi-million dollar

investment and all guest rooms have been entirely refreshed.

Finally, Hyatt Regency Aruba has announced a new series of activities slated to take place throughout the year and designed with the community's wellbeing in mind. The resort has worked closely with associates to determine the programming of the new series, with the following categories to be reflected within each event: children, senior citizens, people with special needs and nature.

The inaugural event, which took place last week, successfully brought a group from Flor di Brazil to the resort's lively casino for snacks, drinks and games.

Continued on Page 15



Culinary Enchantment Awaits at Carambola Restaurant

EAGLE BEACH - Carambola is the perfect choice for a memorable culinary experience in Aruba.

Located at Paradise Beach Villas on Eagle Beach opposite La Cabana Resort, Carambola Restaurant features International cuisine with a touch of the Caribbean.

Our talented Chef creates fresh menu choices daily highlighting Caribbean flavors intriguingly melded with international cuisine.

A large selection of fresh, homemade pasta dishes and fresh fish dishes, including our daily Red Snapper specials,

and premium steaks and chops are accompanied by innovative appetizers and salads, as well as decadent dessert offerings. We offer Wednesday and Friday Specials and of course a special menu for Valentine's Day!

Our full bar and captivating wine list complements the extensive menu.

Named #1 Restaurant -Restaurants.com 2012, and Awarded "One of the Top Restaurants" – Trip Advisor.









major credit cards accept- fast 8am - 11am, Lunch 5:30pm - 10:30pm.

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Hertz issues top 5 trends for U.S. car rental travel in 2015

new year means a new possibility to check out all the great destinations that travelers are hoping to check off their lists. With everything from beaches to deserts, to forests and snow-capped mountains, the U.S. offers travel enthusiasts a chance to explore the open road all year

Below are Hertz' top travel trends for visitors hitting the U.S. roads this year.

--Lower gas prices, revival

MIAMI/ORANJESTAD - A of the road trip - With gas prices the lowest they have been in years, road trips will become more affordable for families. In fact, the U.S. **Energy Information Admin**istration reported that the national average cost of gas is expected to drop 23 percent in 2015 to \$2.60 per gallon. This will allows families to map out trips that take them across multiple cities or states.

> --Miami and Orlando will continue to dominate road travel - With everything from beaches to shopping and theme parks, Miami

and Orlando will continue to be the top destinations for Latin American travelers hitting the road in 2015. Other popular cities for road travel will include Los Angeles and Las Vegas.

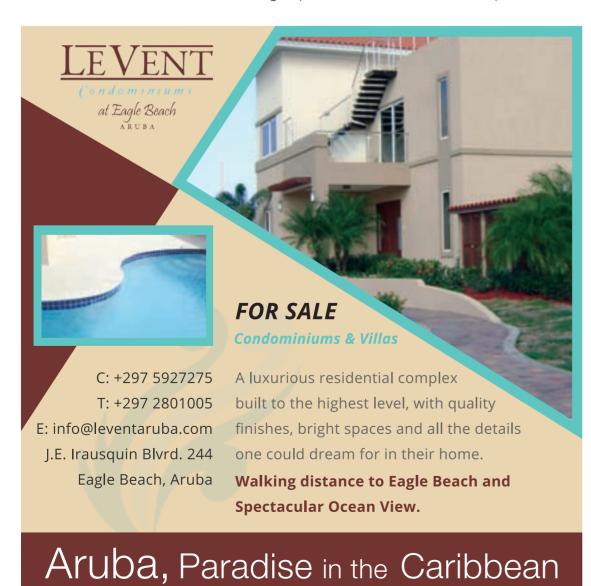
--Technology will continue to transform car rental travel – With the surge in smartphones in Latin America, so will mobile bookings, as more and more travelers discover the ease and convenience of renting their vehicles at the palm of their hand. Last year, Hertz launched an app for its signature GPS system, NeverLost; the NeverLost Companion app allows customers the opportunity to plan their trips on their mobile devices, syncing them to their NeverLost GPS system. The app also allows travelers to go far beyond navigation, providing information on events, local weather and social media sharing.

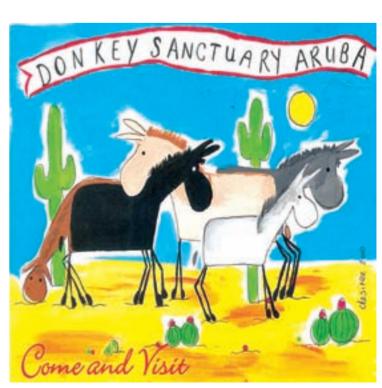
--Advance reservations - As more and more travelers begin to plan their trips -- book air and hotel in advance -- to save money, the trend will also hold true for car rentals. In fact, booking vehicles in advance, as many as two-three months out, can help customers save up to 15 percent. Hertz will be launching several offers this year for those who want to reserve their rentals in advance.

--SUVs for family travel -When on vacation, Latin American travelers love to spend their down time with friends and family, making it necessary to rent vehicles that offer added space and comfort.

With plenty of style to rival the minivan, SUVs will be popular choices among groups in 2015.

For more information or reservations, please visit www. hertz.com.







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Sidebar changes Aruba's restaurant scene with its flavorful gourmet burgers

ORANJESTAD - Take a burger of one hundred percent prime Angus beef, add to that the freshest possible extras and tastiest sauces and voila: here is your gourmet burger. Sidebar, a newly opened, great restaurant in the Renaissance Marketplace in downtown Oranjestad, knows how to tease your taste buds with the best burgers imaginable.

"After two meals and one take out experience, I'm ready to COMMIT. This hip, casual place manages to pull off a great contribution to the latest fad....burgers."

> **Zforall, Sarasota, FL-USA** TripAdvisor - January 5th, 2015

Sidebar's signature burgers have been named The Sidebar, The Afterburner, The Goliath, The Texan, The Chaser, The Primal and The Italian Job and we are sure that everyone will be able to find a burger that calls out to them. The burgers come with brie cheese, prosciutto, Cheddar cheese, zucchini, sliced steak, Bourbon bbq sauce, dripping gravy and much more, depending on your order. The best thing is that these gourmet beauties cost less than \$ 15.—, so lunch or an evening out won't break the bank.

Feel love for Sidebar's burgers; they are bursting with taste— try them all and find your personal favorite. Come on down to Sidebar and rock your Wildest West with a fabulously tasty burger that packs a punch with its layers of flavor. And if you are not in a burger mood, then Sidebar has a wonderfully varied menu of all kinds of other options, ranging from vegetarian mushrooms and spinach to a zucchini cutlet to lovely salads, homemade soups, pastas and fish dishes.

Wash your lunch or dinner down with a premium, aged Bourbon or try the ice-cold beers on tap to slake your thirst. You can choose between Heineken, Balashi, Chill, Stella Artois, Miller Light or Presidente. Come inside, at the bar or sit outside on the terrace; at Sidebar there will always be a place for you.





Continued from Page 13

The next event in the pipeline is the Carnaval Jumpin on February 13, 2015, where Hyatt will organize a battle between different music groups.

Hyatt will partner with the Mary Joan Foundation,

which focuses on providing support to breast cancer survivors and their families and friends, in conjunction with this event. All proceeds will be donated to this foundation.

"The Hyatt Regency Aruba family is excited to give back to the community that has welcomed them throughout their 25 years

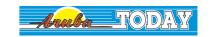
and we look forward to the upcoming events on our island," said Vanessa Tromp of Human Resources.

"We plan to have at least one community event each month in various parts of Aruba."

For more information about the Hyatt Regency Aruba, call 1-800-55-HYATT or visit-www.aruba.hyatt.com.











Lunch & Dinner

Located in the lower lobby of the hotel. Please use side entrance in parking lot.

J.E. Irausquin Boulevard. 77, (ex-Westin Hotel) Tel: 586-3388.

Divi Friends Group Enjoy Dinner at Sea Breeze Restaurant!

DRUIF BEACH - At Divi Village several 'Week 5' owners get together at least once for dinner at the Sea Breeze restaurant during their stay.

This group of 31 people, mostly from around Boston, New York and Cape Cod, meet in here in Aruba, but also stay in touch throughout the year and even have some get-togethers back home!

Although most of them stay 3-4 weeks, the highest number is always in week 5.

Two members of the group love Aruba so much that they purchased a home here, and now Nancy and Bill DeOrsy will spend 3 months here!

Marianne Meuse organized the group for Mon-





day night after Super Bowl Sunday, which was extra festive as most are avid Patriots fans.

Everyone was impressed with the beautiful renovation of the Sea Breeze and its new menu, expertly prepared by their

> The Blue Løbster

and also try our creole lunch

long-time friend in the kitchen Romelus Flaubert. In the photos, members of the group enjoy their dinner event, including Paul and Donna Devine, Nancy and Bill DeOrsy, Charlie Hillborne, and Bill and Marianne Meuse.



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SPURIS SODAY



Austria's Anna Fenninger holds up her medal after placing first the women's super-G competition at the alpine skiing world championships Tuesday, Feb. 3, 2015, in Beaver Creek, Colo. Associated Press

Anna Fenninger wins super-G at worlds; Lindsey Vonn takes 3rd

PAT GRAHAM
AP Sports Writer
BEAVER CREEK, Colo. (AP)

— Anna Fenninger was barely across the finish line when she looked up and saw "new leader" flash across the video board.

In her excitement, she dropped to the ground and buried her face into the snow. This may have been Lindsey Vonn's party, but the Austrian stole the show.

Fenninger added a world championship super-G title to her Olympic gold medal, winning the event in Vonn's backyard Tuesday on a shortened course because of blustery conditions.

Finding the perfect line, Fenninger finished in 1 minute, 10.29 seconds to top Tina Maze of Slovenia by 0.03 seconds. Vonn wound up third, 0.15 seconds back despite a wind gust standing her up early in her run.

"It was an amazing emotion," Fenninger said. "I cannot say what this means."

Continued on Next Page



Nick Watney, left, pats his caddie Chad Reynolds on the back after the second round of the Humana Challenge golf tournament on the Nicklaus Private course at PGA West, Friday, Jan. 23, 2015, in La Quinta, Calif.

-Anuba-10D/AY

Super-G

Continued from Previous Page

Fenninger understands the pressure Vonn is under racing on home snow. She felt it, too, at the 2013 world championships in Schladming, Austria.

And she knows the importance of Vonn doing well in America — to keep the country tuning in for ski races. She felt a little bad for crashing the party. But only a little.

"Here, they know who Lindsey Vonn is and watch her and they are watching us, too," Fenninger said. "We have more promotion and it's very important for our sport."

Vonn, the favorite in a race near her hometown of Vail, momentarily held the lead and the capacity crowd went wild, ringing cowbells and holding up homemade signs. Her boyfriend, golfer Tiger Woods, saw Vonn's name topping the leaderboard and instantly yelled out, "Yes!"

It didn't last long, though.

Maze was the next skier down and took over the top spot, silencing the crowd.

"I thought I skied pretty well," Vonn said. "I'm happy with the way I skied. I'm happy with the result. I just wish the weather was a little bit better."

Three racers later, it was Fenninger on top, ending Maze's reign as world champion. Fenninger also won the event at the 2014 Sochi Games.

Fenninger is on quite a run, capturing the overall World Cup title a year ago. She said she didn't feel much pressure heading into the race on Tuesday.

"I was pretty cool in the morning," she said. "I knew that I can win."

With the whipping wind and blowing snow, the race was delayed 30 minutes and the start moved down the hill, eliminating a steep portion. That favored the more technical skiers. Fenninger carved it up. So, too, did Maze.

"It was not easy to ski with the wind," said Maze, who earned her seventh medal



From left; Slovenia's Tina Maze, second place' Austria's Anna Fenninger, first place, and United States' Lindsey Vonn, third place, celebrate on the podium after the women's super-G competition at the alpine skiing world championships on Tuesday, Feb. 3, 2015, in Beaver Creek, Colo.

Associated Press

at worlds. "But today was the first day I put down the run that I wanted. It's a lot of waves, a lot of terrain, I'm really happy I could bring down this run."

This was Vonn's first event at worlds since a bad crash two years ago during the super-G in Austria tore ligaments in her right knee. She tried to make it back in time for the Sochi Games last February, but missed those Olympics because of a second knee operation.

In Vonn's absence, Maze ruled the big events. She won three world medals in Austria and two Olympic golds in Sochi.

Leading up to worlds, Vonn said she was treating this big event in front of a hometown crowd almost like her Olympics.

As she nervously waited in the start gate — a headwind making her pony tail blow backward — Woods stared at the big screen, his eyes shielded behind sunglasses. He was warmly dressed, too, but not wearing the skeleton-patterned mask he donned in Italy when he surprised Vonn after she broke the record for most World Cup wins by a female skier.

That's also the day Woods got hit in the mouth by a camera and lost a tooth. This time, he stayed close to Vonn's mom and out of the way.

Although Vonn crossed the finish line in first, she had a feeling it wasn't going to be enough, especially after encountering so many wind gusts at the top of the course.

She'll get another chance Friday in the downhill, and the forecast is calling for less wind.

"I just want a fair race," Vonn said.

Asked how an outdoor sport can be completely fair, given the swirling wind, Vonn said, "It's not going to be.

"As an athlete, you know that going in," she added. "You have to go with it and do the best you can."

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t's a matter of prestige and quality...

ORANJESTAD- Benjamin Petrocchi, a true native Aruban started the newest export product of Aruba, locally produced hand rolled cigars called "Aruhiba". These cigars are produced and cultivated in Aruba. Petrocchi always had a interest in the cigar business and has also sold Premium Cuban Cigars, and now he is growing his own tobacco crops. After many attempts and trips to Santo Domingo and Cuba, he started his own production and cultivation of Aruhiba Cigars in Aruba. The

cultivation of Aruhiba Cigars in Aruba. The whole process took him 10 years to perfect. Petrocchi dedication to the cigars is important for the moulding and process of making a perfect cigar which takes a long time. Their handmade cigar box is specially designed with their "Aruhiba" logo. Petrocchi considers

With the purchase of \$20 + up, present this ad and receive a FREE Arubiha Cigar



Owner Benjamin Petrocchi

Aruhiba as a promotion for Aruba through its fine cigars. The company sells Aruhiba to the international markets as well. Visit their retail store located in front of the Historic Dutch Windmill in front of the RIO Hotel, with any purchase of \$20 and up you receive a free "Aruhiba" cigar or ask for their gift box of 5 cigars get 1 FREE for only \$37. They open from Monday to Saturday from 9 am till 6:30 pm and on Sundays from 10 am to 4 pm. Aruhiba cigars are now available at the gift stores in your resort and at well-known cigar stores. For their complete selection and attractive by the box prices visit their retail store. Tours are also

available at their Tobacco farm where their cigars are grown and rolled. Winner of the best of Aruba. The best local product.

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NHL Capsules

Oilers beat Sharks in shootout to finally win in California

SAN JOSE, California (AP) — Jordan Eberle scored twice in regulation and Rob Klinkhammer scored in the 13th round of the shootout to help the Edmonton Oilers end a 15-game losing streak in California by beating the San Jose Sharks 5-4 on Monday.

Justin Schultz tied the game with 2:37 remaining and Derek Roy also scored for the Oilers, who last won in the Golden State on April 1, 2012, when they beat Anaheim 2-1.

Viktor Fasth made 33 saves, robbing Joe Pavelski of a potential hat trick in the closing seconds of regulation and stopping 12 of 13 shots in the shootout.

Scott Hannan and Matt Tennyson also scored for the Sharks, who had a three-game winning streak snapped.

RANGERS 6, PANTHERS 3

NEW YORK (AP) — Dan Boyle scored a deflected goal 8:10 into the third period, and Rick Nash and Mats Zuccarello added insurance late as the New York Rangers beat the Florida Panthers.

Boyle flipped a shot from the left point that hit the stick of veteran Florida defenseman Willie Mitchell and bounded past surprised goalie Roberto Luongo. Zuccarello made it 5-3 with 4:02 left.

Carl Hagelin was stopped by Luongo on a penalty shot with 3:19 remaining to keep it a two-goal game, but Nash scored into an empty net at 18:07.

Aleksander Barkov, Dave Bolland and Brandon Pirri had goals for the Panthers.

FLAMES 5, JETS 2

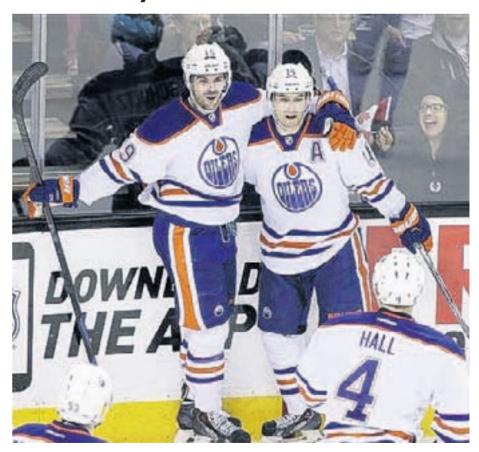
CALGARY, Alberta (AP) — Brandon Bollig and Raphael Diaz scored their first goals of the season as the Calgary Flames beat the Winnipeg Jets.

With a one-goal lead heading into the third period, the Flames struck on the power play at 4:24, making it 3-1 when Diaz let a rocket go from the blue line that found the top corner.

Bollig made it 4-1 at 7:23, converting a pass from Joe Colborne for his first goal in 61 games.

Sean Monahan also scored for Calgary. Blake Wheeler and Bryan Little had the goals for Winnipeg.

Schultz (19)
NHL hocke
Jose, Calif.



Edmonton Oilers right wing Jordan Eberle (14) is greeted by teammates Justin Schultz (19) and Taylor Hall (4) after scoring a goal during the first period of their NHL hockey game against the San Jose Sharks Monday, Feb. 2, 2015, in San Jose Calif

Associated Press



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Pelicans end Hawks' 19-game winning streak, 115-100

The Associated Press

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — The Atlanta Hawks' club-record 19-game winning streak was snapped Monday night in a 115-100 loss to the New Orleans Pelicans.

Anthony Davis had 29 points and 13 rebounds to help New Orleans win for the sixth time in seven games, a stint which includes victories over several contending squads including Dallas and the Los Angeles Clippers.

Jeff Teague scored 21 for Atlanta, but the Hawks fell behind by double digits in the first quarter and failed to even tie it.

Eric Gordon scored 20 points for New Orleans, while Tyreke Evans scored 15 points and tied a season high with 12 assists for the fourth time in five games.

CAVALIERS 97, 76ERS 84 CLEVELAND (AP) — Kyrie Irving scored 24 points, LeBron James added 18 points and 11 assists, and the Cleveland Cavaliers staggered to their 11th straight win.

The winning streak is Cleveland's longest since reeling off 13 in a row — a franchise record — in 2010, the last season of James' first stint with the club. The Cavs had trouble putting away the young Philadelphia Sixers, who did all they could to stay close but don't have the firepower to keep up with Irving, James and one of the NBA's hottest

Atlanta entered the week on a 19-game win streak. Jerami Grant and Robert Covington scored 18 apiece for the Sixers.

THUNDER 104, MAGIC 97 OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) — Russell Westbrook's second triple-double of the season and 10th of his career helped the Oklahoma City



New Orleans Pelicans forward Anthony Davis fouls Atlanta Hawks guard Kyle Korver, left, as he drives to the basket in front of center Al Horford (15) in the first half of an NBA basketball game in New Orleans, Monday, Feb. 2, 2015.

Associated Press

do Magic without the injured Kevin Durant.

Westbrook, an All-Star point guard, had 25 points, 14 assists and 11 rebounds.

Durant sat out with a sprained big toe on his left foot. He has played in just 22 games this season, having missed time earlier in the season with a sprained right ankle and a broken bone in his right foot.

Victor Oladipo scored 22 points and Nikola Vucevic scored 20 points for the Magic, who lost their ninth straight.

HORNETS 92, WIZARDS 88 WASHINGTON (AP) — AI 12 rebounds Monday night, leading the Charlotte Hornets past the Washington Wizards.

Kidd-Gilchrist Michael

Thunder defeat the Orlan-rebounds, Brian Roberts scored 18 points, and Gerald Henderson put in 17 for the Hornets, who have won six of eight. They went 10-4 in January despite losing Kemba Walker to a knee injury that will keep him sidelined at least six more weeks.

> John Wall, who continues to battle a sprained right ankle and migrainelike headaches, scored 16 points with 10 assists for the Wizards, who have dropped three straight.

Bradley Beal led Washington with 18 points and a season-high 11 rebounds.

BUCKS 82, RAPTORS 75 Jefferson had 18 points and TORONTO (AP) — Khris Middleton scored 25 points, Giannis Antetokounmpo had 12 points and 12 rebounds, and the short-handed Milwaukee Bucks snapped added 13 points and 13 a six-game losing streak

against the Toronto Raptors.

Reduced to nine players when guard Brandon Knight was ruled out before the game with a sore right quadriceps muscle, Milwaukee lost another body when guard O.J. Mayo was ejected after picking up a double technical at 4:07 of the second.

Jonas Valanciunas had 12 points and 13 rebounds, DeMar DeRozan scored 16 and Lou Williams 12 for the Raptors, who had won six straight overall.

NETS 102, CLIPPERS 100 NEW YORK (AP) — Jarrett Jack made a tiebreaking jumper with 1.3 seconds left, and the Brooklyn Nets used a late rally to beat the Los Angeles Clippers.

The Nets ended a sevengame home losing streak by erasing a nine-point deficit in the final 1:35, getting two 3-pointers from Alan Anderson — one a fourpoint play — one from Joe Johnson and another from Deron Williams in his return from an 11-game absence. After Chris Paul's layup tied it at 100 with 8.6 seconds to go, Jack lofted a jumper over 6-foot-11 center De-Andre Jordan.

Brook Lopez scored 24 points and Johnson had 22 for the Nets, who snapped an overall four-game skid and won at home for the first time since beating Sacramento on Dec. 29.

MAVERICKS 100, TIMBER-WOLVES 94

DALLAS (AP) — Monta Ellis scored 23 points and the Dallas Mavericks won their first game without injured and Memphis 102, Phoenix point guard Rajon Rondo, 101.

beating Minnesota in the first game in nearly three months for Timberwolves point guard Ricky Rubio.

J.J. Barea had 10 points while starting in Rondo's place. Barea was only 4-of-14 shooting, but had the first and last field goals by Dallas along with two free throws with 17 seconds left to help hold off a comeback try by Minnesota.

Rubio, sidelined since severely spraining his left ankle Nov. 7, had 10 points on 4-of-9 shooting with four assists in 21 minutes.

GRIZZLIES 102, SUNS 101 PHOENIX (AP) — Jeff Green converted a three-point play with 4.5 seconds to play as the Memphis Grizzlies rallied from seven down in the final 1:35 to beat the Phoenix Suns for the seventh straight time. Marc Gasol blocked Mar-

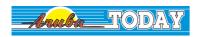
kieff Morris' shot at the finish to preserve the victory.

The Grizzlies, who won their seventh in a row overall and 11th in the last 12 games, scored the final eight points after Isaiah Thomas' 3-pointer Phoenix up 101-94 with 1:49 to play. Thomas scored all 24 of his points in the second half, 16 in the fourth quarter.

Mike Conley led Memphis with 23 points.

In other NBA games it was Charlotte 92, Washington 88; Cleveland 97, Philadelphia 84; Milwaukee 82, Toronto 75; Brooklyn 102, L.A. Clippers 100; New Orleans 115, Atlanta 100; Oklahoma City 104, Orlando 97; Dallas 100, Minnesota 94;





PGA Tour caddies sue over wearing bibs with logos



In this July 15, 2007, file photo, golfer Jonathan Byrd, right, shows caddie Mike Hicks the contour of the 17th green during John Deere Classic golf tournament at the TPC Deere Run golf course in Silvis. II.

DOUG FERGUSON AP Golf Writer

SAN DIEGO (AP) — A group of PGA Tour caddies sued the PGA Tour in federal court Tuesday for making them wear bibs that have the logo of the tournament sponsors without sharing in what it estimates as \$50 million in endorsement revenue.

The class-action suit on behalf of 81 caddies was filed in San Francisco, where former UCLA basketball star Ed O'Bannon successfully sued the NCAA for keeping college players from selling their marketing rights.

"This lawsuit is intended to protect the rights of caddies who are required to endorse tour sponsors with zero compensation from the PGA Tour," said Gene Egdorf, the caddies' Houston-based lawyer. "Any working professional deserves to be paid based on the income they generate, but

that's not happening on the PGA Tour."

PGA Tour spokesman Ty Votaw said there would be no comment.

At issue was whether the tour had a right to force caddies to wear bibs and "retain for itself the tens of millions of dollars in advertising generated by those bibs."

The lawsuit stems from a dispute that has been brewing for more than a year over treatment of caddies.

A tipping point was at The Barclays in August 2013 at Liberty National during a rain delay, when caddies said security would not allow their wives or children in a caddie room because they did not have credentials. They felt it was an example of how the tour treats them like second-class citizens. At several tournaments, they are not allowed in the clubhouse or in the locker room.

Associated Press

The bibs a caddie wears have the players' name on the back, and the tournament logo on the front. The lawsuit also claims the tour has denied caddies access to basic health care and pensions plan.

Mike Hicks, the caddie for Payne Stewart when he won his last U.S. Open in 1999, and Kenny Harms, who works for Kevin Na, were the top two class representatives in the lawsuit. Included among the other caddies were Andy Sanders (who works for Jimmy Walker), Jimmy Johnson (Steve Stricker), Damon Green (Zach Johnson) and Tony Navarro, the longtime cadale for Greg Norman who now works for Gary Woodland.

The caddies for Tiger Woods, Phil Mickelson and Rory McIlroy were not part of the class-action lawsuit. Joe LaCava, who works for Woods, is a

board member of the Association of Professional Tour Caddies that was formed just over a year ago.

The profession has changed over the last few decades. Several caddies on tour formerly played on smaller tours. Michael Maness, who caddies for Kevin Chappell, qualified for The Greenbrier Classic in

2012. Green played in a U.S. Senior Open. Sanders played in the Palmer Cup when he was in college. PGA Tour players are considered to be independent contractors who employ their caddies individually.

The lawsuit claims the tour has contacted players to ask if they would be willing to fire their caddies for not wearing a bib.





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Sex Cancer - By: Dr. Carlos Viana

Many people might not equate cancer and sex together. We know that sex, through the transmission of the HIV virus can be life threatening, but there are more problems. Cancer is a medical condition where a malignant tumor or growth caused when cells multiply uncontrollably, destroys healthy tissue. There are different forms of cancers that take place in different parts of your body.

My mother Nora's sister died twenty-five years ago of cervical cancer. Aunt Lila's death angered me at the time because Lila was involved in propagating regular pelvic examinations that could detect early stages of cancer in the cervix for the Public Health Department in Venezuela. Unlike most cancers, cervical cancer can be prevented and if caught early enough can be successfully treated.

A test developed more than 60 years ago by Dr. George Papanicolaou; the Pap smear is now a standard gynecological screening test during a pelvic exam. A Pap smear is a test that will collect cells from the cervix, the lower, end of the uterus. Laboratory analysis of the sample is used to look for abnormalities that might suggest the presence of cervical cancer or infection and inflammation. The American Cancer Society recommends that women have their first Pap smear three years after first having sexual relations, or at age 21 if they have not been sexually active. Professionally, I suggest these tests begin earlier since most young women are sexually active by age sixteen.

The cause of almost all cases of cervical cancer is a virus that is sexually transmitted. Unfortunately, the Pap test may not find abnormal cells until cancer already has developed. Luckily there is a test you can have along with your Pap smear to detect the virus that causes those abnormal cells called the human Papillomavirus test (HPV test).

HPV virus has become an epidemic. In healthy individuals the body's immune system fights the HPV virus before it causes problems. When infected with the HPV virus, changes take place in the body's cells that may develop into cervical cancer if not detected and treated early. Human papilloma virus is the cause of 99.7 percent of all cases of cervical cancer. Worse, cancer that develops from HPV is not limited to the cervix and if the virus infiltrates the lymph gland system, the cancer-producing virus can travel to any part of the body. Predictably, a woman infected with HPV will contract cancer in her lifetime and will probably eventually die from can-

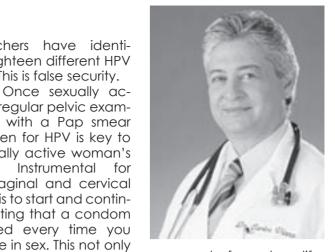
HPV infection is spread by direct skin-to-skin contact with infected body fluids during vaginal, oral, or anal sex. After exposure, warts may begin to appear within several weeks; or they may take months or even years to appear; or they never appear at all. HPV infected men or women who do not appear to have symptoms are as contagious as persons who have visible warts. However, not everyone who has been exposed to the

virus will be infected. Cancer has countless secondary causes, but the basic cause, not enough oxygen in your cells. The HPV virus converts cells from using oxygen to an anaerobic, no oxygen metabolism. Viruses are anaerobic - they cannot exist in a healthy elevated oxygen environment, Influenza, Herpes, Warts, Measles, Canker (Cold) Sores and HPV are all anaerobic. They exist and grow with little or no oxygen present. Increase cellular oxygen levels and these anaerobic diseases cannot replicate and cannot exist. Lack of oxygen in the tissues, because of constant or chronic inflammation is the basic cause for all degenerative disease.

Lack of oxygen in the tissues is a result of a body that is too acidic and is under continuous stress. The wrong foods for your metabolic type, modern over-processed convenience foods, pesticides, toxic heavy metals, and lack of mineral water can all affect your immune system by making your body more acidic. At Viana Natural Healina Center we evaluate health risks and recommend a personal health program to lessen inflammation and strengthen the immune system. This is important for preventative health, but instrumental in supporting the body under any type of stress.

Although there has been a lot of press coverage about HPV vaccine, this is not the answer. The vaccine, which has been responsible for several deaths worldwide, hopes to protect young women from four different types of HPV virus. So far medical researchers have identified eighteen different HPV types. This is false security.

tive, a regular pelvic examination with a Pap smear to screen for HPV is key to a sexually active woman's health. Instrumental for your vaginal and cervical health is to start and continue insisting that a condom be used every time you engage in sex. This not only helps protect from HPV, but healthier for both partners than all alternatives except total abstinence, which may be unrealistic for most of today's youth. Conditions such as vaginitis and yeast infection usually produce symptoms, while cervical dysplasia or cancers often do not. Gynecological examinations may be used to view the cervix or obtain biopsy tissue and freezing therapy may be used to remove abnormal cervical tissue, but nothing will cure you from the HPV virus. Get The Point! The bad news is that too many women are still getting cervical cancer and are still dying. This, however, can change for the better if woman and men insist that their sexual partners use condoms. We need to realize that a woman infected with HPV can give another woman, through sexual contact the virus and infected men, who usually do not show symptoms can infect countless women. To protect our health we need to learn more about the health consequences of sexual contact and realize that by being careful it does not mean that you trust your partner any less. Call for an appointment. Let us teach you how to keep cancer and other dis-



eases out of your love life. CARLOS VIANA, Ph. D. is an Oriental Medical Doctor (O.M.D.) having studied in China; a US Board Cert. Clinical Nutritionist (C.C.N.), an Addiction Professional (C.Ad.), Chairperson of the Latin American Committee of the International Academy of Oral Medicine and Toxicology (IAOMT), a Rejuvenating Cell Therapist specializing in Age Management, has a weekly radio program, writes and lectures exten-For information: sively. VIANA HEALING CENTER. Kibaima 7, St Cruz TEL: 585-1270 Web Site: www.vianaheal.com

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Groupon founder takes a detour with new audio tour app

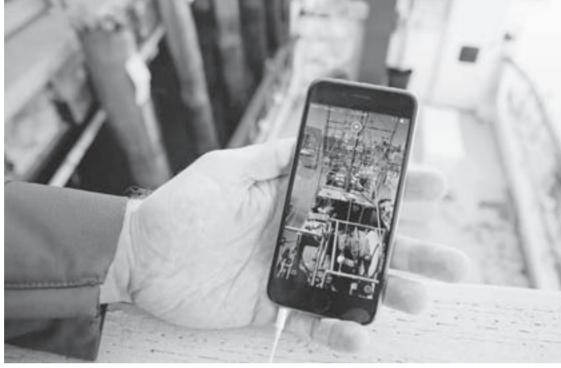
MICHAEL LIEDTKE AP Technology Writer SAN FRANCISCO (AP) -

Two years ago, Andrew Mason faced an unexpected detour when he was ousted as CEO from the online discount site he founded, Groupon. Now the tech executive's back on the entrepreneurial path, with an iPhone app selling unconventional audio tours of major cities. It's called — you guessed it — Detour.

Seven different San Francisco expeditions, released Tuesday, meander from the city's beatnik bars to the weathered docks of the bay while regaling listeners with colorful tales about local lore. Each excursion costs \$5. If Detour follows the course Mason's charting, the audio tours will span the globe within the next five years and the app will become a standard accessory for vacationers or city dwellers just looking for a fun way to learn more about where they live.

"Most of the audio tours that exist today are about what's popular inside museums," Mason says. "What we are trying to do is turn the world into a museum." Mason, 34, became rich by trying to create the world's biggest bargain bin. In 2008, he transformed an online service devoted to social causes into Groupon Inc., which offered steep discounts on everything from restaurant meals to hot-air balloon flights if enough people bought them. By late 2011, Groupon had become an Internet sensation valued at \$13 billion in an initial public offering of stock that turned Mason into a billionaire.

Things unraveled quickly as Groupon battled copycat services from hundreds



In this Thursday, Jan. 29, 2015 photo, Detour co-founder and CEO Andrew Mason uses his new Detour app to take an audio tour of Fisherman's Wharf in San Francisco.

Associated Press

of rivals, including Google Inc. and Amazon.com, and the thrill of the deal faded for many consumers. By early 2013, Groupon's stock had plunged nearly 80 percent below its IPO price of \$20, triggering Mason's firing. The collapse shrunk the value of Mason's stake in Groupon from \$1.5 billion to about \$228 million.

Without sounding bitter, Mason looks back on Groupon as a "stupid, boring idea that just happened to resonate." He no longer dwells on what went wrong at the company. "I Google it from time to time, but I have moved on," Mason

Mason, a former punk band keyboardist known for his flippant humor, initially spent his time after Groupon making a quirky album called "Hardly Workin.'" He then moved from his longtime home in Chicago to San Francisco to focus on Detour — an idea that he had pondered even before launching

Groupon. He recalls becoming frustrated when he and his future wife vacationed in Rome in 2007 and could only find mundane audio tours that shackled listeners to a group of fellow travelers.

Mason figured some company would eventually make a more versatile mobile app for audio tours, but he couldn't find one each time he went on vacation. So he decided to try to do it himself, especially once he realized he couldn't think of anything else better to do after his whirlwind success at Groupon.

"My mind got corrupted, so I basically had to work through all the old ideas I had before I became successful," Mason says after arriving to an interview on his Vespa scooter. He is drawing upon his own personal wealth to finance Detour, which so far has just 10 employees in addition to freelance writers who help

script the audio tours.

Apple's app store already is stocked with audio tours and guidebooks for cities around the world, but most of those focus on familiar landmarks. Detour points out some of San Francisco's top tourist destinations, but Mason is trying to highlight "hidden stories" about the city's past.

One tour consists of a 90-minute jaunt through the old haunts of Jack Kerouac and other iconoclastic writers who catapulted San Francisco to the forefront of the Beat Generation during the 1950s. Another 75-minute stroll traipses through San Francisco's grittier sections accompanied by the narration of Grateful Dead lyricist John Perry Barlow.

Detour won't be as easy to copy as Groupon, Mason hopes, because of the technology powering it and the creative stories woven into it. Detour also uses Bluetooth signals to connect multiple people on different phones so friends or family can listen together.

When it's open, Detour tracks a listener's location to allow the tours to be taken as quickly or as slowly as desired.

Uber, Carnegie Mellon partnering on Pittsburgh research lab

burah research lab they say could lead to the development of driverless cars.

partnership announced Monday includes Uber funding for faculty chairs and graduate fellowships at the private research university.

PITTSBURGH (AP) — Ride- San Francisco-based Uber well as traditional taxi and sharing service Uber is says the Uber Advanced limousine services. partnering with Carnegie Technologies Center will Uber and Carnegie Mellon Mellon University on a Pitts- also focus on mapping and say they'll build the new safety technologies in support of its ride-sharing mission.

> Uber operates in 200 cities in 54 countries, including Pittsburgh, Philadelphia and Harrisbura. It competes with Lyft and other ride-sharing startups, as

lab near the university's National Robotics Engineering Center in the city's Lawrenceville neighborhood. Mayor William Peduto says the lab furthers Pittsburgh's reputation as a center of innovation.



UPS hits lowered target for 4Q profit, 2015 forecast tepid

DAVID KOENIG
AP Business Writer

DALLAS (AP) — Higher spending to gear up for the crush of holiday-package deliveries pushed fourth-quarter profit down 61 percent at UPS and the company gave a tepid outlook for 2015.

The results were roughly in line with the lowered expectations that UPS set two weeks ago, when it warned that profits during the latter part of the year would disappoint.

CEO David Abney said Tuesday that the company will control costs and raise prices this year, including surcharges for residential deliveries on peak days. UPS is sticking to its long-term targets for higher earnings, he said. UPS earned \$453 million, or 49 cents per share, in the

last three months of 2014, compared with \$1.17 billion, or \$1.25 per share, a year earlier.

Excluding special items, the company would have earned \$1.25 per share, which matched the average estimate of analysts surveyed by Zacks Investment Research. However, it was 3 cents shy of the consensus tallied by another service, FactSet.

Revenue rose 6 percent to \$15.90 billion, beating forecasts at both research firms.

The Atlanta company said that 2015 earnings would be between \$5.05 and \$5.30 per share. The midpoint of that range falls below the \$5.26 per share forecast in the FactSet survey.

UPS Inc. signaled on Jan. 23 that heavy spending

to handle the mass of holiday shipping would pull earnings below Wall Street expectations. Yet the company's report Tuesday did reveal more details about what happened.

While revenue grew 6 percent, total operating expenses jumped 16 percent, led by a 20 percent increase in compensation and benefits.

Hopes for an end to oil price rout sends stocks higher

BERNARD CONDON AP Business Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — A jump in oil prices helped push U.S. stocks indexes sharply higher for a second day on Tuesday, erasing much of their losses from the start of the year.

U.S. benchmark oil surged 7 percent on hopes that a seven-month collapse in prices that had rattled financial markets was ending. All 10 industry sectors of the Standard and Poor's 500 index rose, led a 2.8 percent gain in energy shares. Stocks climbed from the start following a rally in European markets on signs that Greece's new government won't press for a write-off of the country's bailout loans. The benchmark stock index in Athens jumped 11 percent.

U.S. investors were also encouraged by a surge in auto sales last month.

The S&P 500 index climbed 29.18 points, or 1.4 percent, to 2,050.03. The Dow Jones industrial average jumped 305.36 points, or 1.8 percent, to 17,666.40. The Nas-

daq rose 51.05 points, or 1.1 percent, to 4,727.74.

Investors are hoping that oil prices have found a floor after falling as much as 60 percent from their recent peak last June. Prices have risen 19 percent in four days

ager at Federated Investors. Kaufler suspects producers will have idle more rigs before prices stabilize. "There's a lot of hope that it's the bottom, but these things aren't really obvious."



Danny Meyer, left, Founder & CEO of Union Square Hospitality Group, and Shake Shack CEO Randy Garutti are seen on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange. A jump in oil prices helped push U.S. stocks indexes sharply higher for a second day on Tuesday, erasing much of their losses from the start of the year.

(AP Photo/Richard Drew)

as producers have canceled exploration projects and cut the number of rigs drilling for oil.

"Prices were due for a bounce," said Matthew Kaufler, a portfolio manThe stock market got off to a bad start this year. The S&P 500 sank 3 percent in January, its worse monthly performance in a year. With Tuesday's gains, the index is now down just 0.4 percent so far in 2015.

Automakers were among the big winners as investors responded to reports of strong vehicle sales last month. Ford rose 38 cents, or 2.5 percent, to \$15.65. General Motors climbed 87 cents, or 2.6 percent, to \$33.98.

The main indexes in France and Britain each rose more than 1 percent after a report that Greece's finance minister had suggested in a meeting Monday in London that its debt be replaced with bonds that would be repaid only if Greece's economy grows. He also suggested using interest-only bonds.

Among other stocks making big moves:

— Office supply chain Staples jumped \$1.87, or 11 percent, to \$19.01 following a report in the Wall Street Journal that the company is in advanced talks to combine with Office Depot. Office Depot leapt \$1.65, or 22 percent, to \$9.28.

— AutoNation rose \$3.83, or 6.5 percent, to \$63.17 after the country's largest chain

of car dealerships reported income that beat Wall Street's estimates.

— The New York Times rose 7.6 percent and Gannett gained 5.7 percent after the media companies each reported quarterly earnings that exceeded analysts' expectations. The New York Times rose 97 cents to \$13.73. Gannett rose \$1.81 to \$33.32.

The euro was little changed at \$1.1505. The dollar fell 0.2 percent to 117.27 yen.

U.S. government bond prices fell. The yield on the 10-year Treasury note rose to 1.79 percent from 1.67 percent. Gold fell \$16.60 to \$1,260.30 an ounce, silver rose seven cents to \$17.32 an ounce and copper rose nine cents to \$2.58 a pound.

In other oil futures trading in New York:

— Wholesale gasoline rose 5.67 cents to \$1.601 a gallon

— Heating oil jumped 8.9 cents to \$1.847 a gallon

Natural gas gained 7.4 cents to \$2.754 per 1,000 cubic feet.

Aetna 4Q profit drops but meets forecasts, guidance climbs

TOM MURPHY AP Business Writer

Aetna closed 2014 by matching Wall Street earnings expectations, and the insurer raised its forecast for 2015 thanks in part to a price break it got on some expensive hepatitis C treatments.

The nation's third-largest health insurer said Tuesday that it now expects fullyear operating earnings of at least \$7 per share, up a dime from its previ-

ous forecast. That is short of average analyst expectations for \$7.14 per cents per share, according to FactSet. But Chief Financial Officer Shawn Guertin told analysts that the new forecast was a floor the company aimed to exceed. He said Aetna raised its expectation for the year because medical enrollment came in higher than projected and it worked out a preferred drug contract covering hepatitis C treat-

ments.

Aetna said last month that it had reached a deal with Gilead Sciences Inc. on discounts for Sovaldi and Harvoni, two ground-breaking treatments for the liverdestroying virus that have list prices of about \$84,000 and \$94,000, respectively, for a course of treatment. The insurer hasn't detailed the discount.

Insurers have warned for more than a year now about a spike in medical expenses due to a wave of new and pricey specialty drugs like Sovaldi, which debuted in late 2013. Competition has since hit the market for some of these drugs, and drugmakers have started negotiating more on price to preserve their market share.

In the fourth quarter, Aetna's earnings slid 37 percent as it spent more to grow its business. The insurer earned \$232 million, or 65 cents per share, down from \$368.9 million, or \$1 per share, in the final quarter of 2013.

Operating earnings for the most recent quarter totaled \$1.22 per share.

That matched the average estimate of analysts surveyed by Zacks Investment Research.

Operating revenue, which excludes investment gains and losses, rose 13 percent to about \$14.8 billion. That beat analyst expectations of \$14.55 billion. □



FROM THE NEW YORK TIMES A25 WEDNESDAY 4 FEBRUARY

Being Who We Are



DAVID BROOKS © 2015 New York Times

In the middle of 2013, the United States began supporting moderate rebels in Syria. We gave them just enough support to betray them.

As Adam Entous reported in The Wall Street Journal this week, we promised the fighters support but then never had the will to follow through. The CIA gave the rebels just 5 percent to 20 percent of the arms they requested. One trusted commander asked for more than a thousand rifles and received fewer than 36. One commander got the equivalent of 16 bullets a month per fighter. The rebels captured dozens of tanks, but the CIA wouldn't provide cash for fuel or shells so the tanks just sat there.

The rebels asked the CIA for ammunition to take advantage of temporary opportunities, but the CIA sometimes took two weeks to decide. The U.S. gave the rebels money to pay their troops, but they only gave them \$100 to \$150 for each fighter per month. The Islamic State paid its fighters twice that. The CIA was terrified that the arms it supplied would fall into enemy hands so it maintained paralyzingly tight controls on sophisticated weaponry. Trusted commanders had to film their use of anti-tank missiles. They had to hand over spent missile launchers at a spot along the border to qualify for resupply.

"We walk around Syria with a huge American flag planted on our backs, but we don't have enough AK-47s in our hands to protect ourselves," one fighter told American lawmakers.

"Why did you give us hope if you were not going to do anything about it?" another asked. "We thought going with the Americans was going with the big guns," another leader declared at a meeting. "It was a losing bet."

The whole Wall Street Journal report gives the impression that the Islamic State not only has more resolve than the U.S. and its intelligence agencies, it has faster and more competent leadership.

The betrayal of the rebels in 2013 and 2014 is only a small betrayal, compared with the betrayal of values that might be unintentionally happening now. It appears as though the U.S. is backing off in its opposition to Bashar Assad, the mass murderer whose barbaric re-

gime is a prime cause of instability in that part of the world. In our effort to stop the Islamic State, in the hopes of smoothing the Iranian nuclear talks, we may have entered a de facto alliance with Assad.

Now, Syria is obviously a viper's pit in a region where the choices normally range from the appalling to the horrendous. But there are ways to approach problems in this region, and there are ways not to.

The way not to approach the Middle East is as a chessboard on which the grandmasters of U.S. foreign policy can impose their designs. This is the sort of overconfident thinking that leads policymakers to squander moral authority by vowing to destroy Assad one month and then effectively buttressing him the next. This is the sort of overconfident thinking that leads to too-clever calibration of our support for the moderate rebels - giving them enough support to give the illusion of doing something real, while not actually giving enough to do any good.

The Middle East is not a chessboard we have the power to manipulate. It is a generational drama in which we can only play our role. It is a drama over ideas, a contest between the forces of jihadism and the forces of pluralism. We can't know how this drama will play out, and we can't direct it. We can only promote pluralism - steadily, consistently, simply.

Sticking to our values means maintaining a simple posture of support for people who share them and a simple posture of opposition to those who oppose them. It means offering at least some reliable financial support to moderate fighters and activists even when their prospects look dim. It means avoiding cynical alliances, at least as much as possible. It means using bombing campaigns to try to prevent mass slaughter.

If we do that then we will fortify people we don't know in ways we can't imagine. Over the long term, we'll make the Middle East slightly more fertile for moderation, which is the only influence we realistically have. Ideas drive history.

Right now there is bipartisan inconsistency over the effectiveness of government. Republicans think government is a bumbling tool at home but a magnificent instrument abroad. Democrats think government is a magnificent instrument at home but a bumbling tool abroad. In reality, government is best when it chooses the steady simple thing over the complex clever thing. When you don't know the future and can't control events, bet on people. Support the good, oppose the bad.

Realist half-commitments that undermine our allies and too-clever games that buttress our foes will only backfire - and lead to betrayals that make us feel ashamed.



New York's Real Scandal



JOE NOCERA © 2015 New York Times

"The scandal isn't what's illegal," goes one of Michael Kinsley's best-known sayings. "The scandal is what's legal." I offer you l'affaire Sheldon Silver as a case in point.

Silver, who for two decades was the all-powerful speaker of the New York Assembly, was indicted last week for a variety of alleged illegal actions. Chief among them was his failure to list outside income on his financial disclosure forms, and his steering \$500,000 from a state slush fund he controlled to a doctor who specialized in mesothelioma in return for client referrals. Silver says he'll be vindicated, but Preet Bharara, the U.S. attorney who indicted him, has won the cooperation of a number of key participants, including said doctor, whose name is Robert Taub. We'll return to him in a minute.

Despite the rather obvious potential for conflict of interest, it's perfectly legal for a New York legislator in New York to earn outside income. Few took fuller advantage of this than Silver, who for more than a decade was paid millions of dollars by two law firms. One of them was Weitz & Luxenberg, a big-time New York plaintiffs' firm that specializes in bringing lawsuits on behalf of people with mesothelioma, a rare, deadly form of cancer that results primarily

from exposure to asbestos.

Though Silver is a lawyer, he knew nothing about asbestos litigation - nor did he ever do any actual lawyering for the firm. So what did he do? The firm now says it brought him on - at a base salary of \$120,000 a year - purely to lend it prestige. But in truth, Silver did much more than that. As speaker of the Assembly he could ensure that the Legislature did nothing to clip the wings of the plaintiffs' bar, like setting a cap on damages.

He could also solicit client referrals, for which he would receive a piece of the action. This is where Taub comes in. Many doctors who specialize in mesothelioma have a pretty explicit tit-for-tat: They refer patients to firms that help fund their research. A legal bribe, you might call it. Before Taub and Silver began doing business, the doctor asked for funding from Weitz & Luxenberg. The firm said no. So instead, Silver instructed the Department of Health to make two \$250,000 grants to Taub's research. (In a statement, Weitz & Luxenberg said it had no knowledge of Silver's quid pro

When the grant money ran out, Taub began referring most of his patients to Simmons Hanly Conroy, a big asbestos firm in Illinois. But he still made the occasional referral to Weitz & Luxenberg to curry favor with Silver. In return, Silver got Taub's son a job and directed \$25,000 in state funds to his wife's charity. Perfectly legal.

There is one other thing Silver could do for Weitz & Luxenberg. He could help make sure that the New York judiciary would look favorably on asbestos cases. The chief judge of the New York State Court of Appeals, Jonathan Lippman, is a childhood friend of Silver's. And, in 2008, Lippman placed Silver's good friend Arthur Luxenberg - yes, the same Luxenberg who was paying Silver \$120,000, plus referral fees - on a committee

that recommends judicial appointments. Six months later, a judge named Sherry Klein Heitler was assigned to lead New York City's dedicated asbestos court.

Defense lawyers say that since then, the asbestos court has become the plaintiffs' bar's best friend. Before Heitler's appointment, the court had deferred punitive damages claims indefinitely for the sensible reason that since companies stopped making asbestos products decades earlier there was no behavior to correct. Heitler brought punitive damages back. Mesothelioma cases that had very little in common were consolidated, which pressured defendant companies to settle and, when they didn't, could lead to huge jury awards.

According to the American Tort Reform Association, the average award for an asbestos claim in New York City since 2007 is \$21.7 million. That is "roughly seven times the \$3.1 million average award in courts throughout the rest of New York state."

And no firm has had more success than Weitz & Luxenberg. According to the economic consulting firm Bates White, it handles some 53 percent of the city's mesothelioma filings. The court itself acknowledged Weitz & Luxenberg cases take precedence over others. It has also reaped the most money. In July 2013, for instance, it won \$190 million for five plaintiffs, the most awarded in a New York City asbestos case.

Weitz & Luxenberg insists that the judiciary treats everyone fairly and that it reaps the biggest awards because it does the best job. That may be so. But it couldn't hurt that Silver also played an important role in setting judicial pay, and that in 2011 his commission appointee cast the deciding vote in getting the state judges a 27 percent raise.

Which, of course, is perfectly legal. □

nuba 10 D/:\'

Mutts





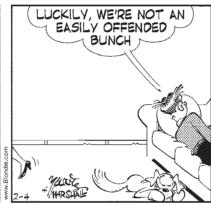
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Blondie







Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues



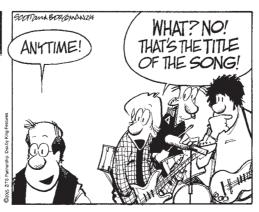




Zits







Conceptis Sudoku

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			6	3			1	7
		2			9		6	
	9	6	3			4		
3				5		7		
	2	8	7			1		6
	7		2			6		8
		1			3	9		2
						3	4	

Difficulty Level ★★★

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

er	5	4	7	2	8	6	3	9	1
มรพ	3	1	6	7	4	9	2	5	8
zzle	2	8	9	1	5	3	4	7	6
Yesterday's puzzle answer	4	5	1	9	3	2	6	8	7
rday	6	7	2	8	1	4	5	3	9
/este	9	3	8	6	7	5	1	4	2
	1	9	4	3	6	7	8	2	5
	7	6	3	5	2	8	9	1	4
	8	2	5	4	9	1	7	6	3

ACROSS 1 Oscar-winning

- star Kathy 6 Pea casings 10 Lower leg part 14 "The __ and
- the Ecstasy* 15 Way out
- 16 Sharpen 17 Bar orders
- 18 Casino game 19 On the _ with;
- not speaking to 20 Opposite of subtraction
- 22 Small clothes storage room
- 24 Relinquish 25 Rollerblade
- wearers 26 Reason to use
- an inhaler 29 In __; speedily 30 Taurus or Prius
- 31 Sandbar 33 Standing straight 37 Bleachers level
- 39 __ the blue; seemingly from nowhere

2 Elderly

__ the line;

obeyed

4 Embellish

5 "All __ go!";

6 Tea variety

9 Wall Street

concerns

10 Large marbles

11 On the __; free to the customer

13 Homes of twigs

21 "Gem State

25 Beauty parlor

26 New Testament

book, for short 27 Set __; leave

23 Overdue

shore 28 Maple or fir

29 Despises

32 Removes from

8 Clamor

12 Bury

7 Plow pullers

cue to proceed

- 41 On __; offered at a lower price 42 Slumber
- 44 Mexican mister 46 Appropriate
- 47 Trousers 49 Stops
- 51 Winged horse of mythology 54 Holbrook and

Linden

- 55 Sign up, as for the army 60 Slightly open 61 Lunch or dinner
- 63 Unsuspecting 64 Morse 65 British noble 66 Fearful and shy 67 Watched
- 68 Writer Zane 69 Toboggans

DOWN

- office forcefully 34 Actor George 1 "Ali __ and the 35 Helpful hint
- Forty Thieves" 36 Trevino's pegs

Tuesday's Puzzle Solved



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38 Fixed 52 Have fun with opening 54 Yule greenery

43 Go by 45 Gives in 48 Eggnog topper 50 Attack

hippie

56 Be concerned 57 Green citrus 51 Greeting from a

58 Enthusiastic 59 Marries 62 Corn serving



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In this Monday, Oct. 31, 2005, picture, a harvester works through a field of genetically modified corn on the dairy farm owned by Al Lafranchi, near Santa Rosa, Calif.

Associated Press

Classifieds vaccination against child hood diseases is needed. In eight of 13 science-or

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Poll shows giant gap between what public, scientists think

SETH BORENSTEIN AP Science Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — The American public and U.S. scientists are light-years apart on science issues. And 98 percent of surveyed scientists say it's a problem that people don't know what they're talking about. Scientists are far less worried about genetically modified food, pesticide use, and nuclear power than is the general public, according to matching polls of both the general public and the country's largest general science organization. Scientists were more certain that global warming is caused by man, evolution is real, overpopulation is a danger and mandatory vaccination against child-In eight of 13 science-ori-

ented issues, there was a 20 percentage point or higher gap separating the opinions of the public and members of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, according to survey work by the Pew Research Center. The gaps didn't correlate to any liberal-conservative

split; the scientists at times more traditionally conservative views and at times more liberal.

"These are big and notable gaps," said Lee Rainie, director of Pew's internet, science and technology research. He said they are "pretty powerful indicators of the public and the scientific community seeing the world differently."

In the most dramatic split, 88 percent of the scientists surveyed said it is safe to eat genetically modified foods, while only 37 percent of the public say it is safe and 57 percent say it is unsafe. And 68 percent of scientists said it is safe to eat foods grown with pesticides, compared with only 28 percent of the general public.

Ninety-eight percent of scientists say humans evolved over time, compared with 65 percent of the public. The gap wasn't quite as large for vaccines, with 86 percent of the scientists favoring mandatory childhood shots while 68 percent of the public did.

Eighty-seven percent of scientists said global warming is mostly due to human activity, while only half of the public did. The figures for scientists are slightly different than past academic studies because of wording of the question and the fact that science assoc iaton members include many specialties, but they tell the same essential story, said Pew associate director Cary Funk.

What to do about climate change is another issue. Nearly two-thirds of scientists favored building more nuclear power plants, but only 45 percent of the public did. But more of the public favored offshore drilling for oil and fracking than scientists did.

More than four out of five scientists thought the growing world population will be a major problem, but just less than three out of five members of the public did. Pew polled 2,002 adults in August and did an online survey of 3,748 AAAS members in the fall.

The margin of error is plus or minus 3.1 percentage points for the public and 1.7 percentage points for the scientists.

Scientist considered father of birth control pill dies

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Carl Djerassi, the chemist widely considered the father of the birth control pill, has died.

Djerrasi died of complications of cancer in his San Francisco home, Stanford University spokesman Dan Stober said. He was 91.

Djerassi, a professor emeritus of chemistry at Stanford, was most famous for leading a research team in Mexico City that in 1951 developed norethindrone, of U.S. contraceptive rea synthetic molecule that search, according to the

became a key component of the first birth control pill.

"The pill," as it came to be known, radically transformed sexual practices and women's lives.

In his book, "This Man's Pill," Djerassi said the invention also changed his life, making him more interested in dominant role in shaping how science affects society.

public policy article about Dale Djerassi; a stepdaughthe global implications

Stanford News Service. In 1970, he published another article about the feasibility of a birth control pill for men. "The thoughts behind these two public policy articles had convinced me that politics, rather than science, would play the the future of human birth control," he wrote.

In 1969, he submitted a He is survived by a son, ter, Leah Middlebrook; and a grandson, Alexander M. Djerassi.

'Fresh off the Boat,' a funny sitcom about Asian-Americans

FRAZIER MOORE
AP Television Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Diversity on TV takes a step forward with ABC's "Fresh off the Boat," which boosts Asians' scant presence in prime time with a sitcom about an Asian-American family pursuing the American dream while holding onto their own ethnicity.

It previews Wednesday with episodes at 8:30 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. EST.

But, first, a couple of caveats:

— The title overstates the premise. Yes, Louis Huang and his family (wife Jessica and their three sons) have moved from Washington, D.C.'s Chinatown to Orlando, where Louis, "full of big plans," has opened a new restaurant. But the title suggests refugees paralyzed by culture shock. Most of the show's humor comes, instead, from the sometimes perplexed, sometimes delighted, reactions of its strangers-in-a-strange land to the quirks of Orlando and suburbia in general.

— The format of "Fresh" is a bergs," whose all-grown-



In this image released by ABC, Randall Park, left, and Constance Wu appear in a scene from the new comedy series "Fresh Off the Boat," previewing Wednesday with episodes at 8:30 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. EST.

Associated Press

bit less than fresh. The show takes place in 1995 and is narrated by the adult version of the oldest son, 11-year-old Eddie. Shades of "Everybody Hates Chris," another single-camera comedy whose narrator, Chris Rock, told of his 1980s boyhood in an African-American community, and ABC's current "The Goldberas," whose all-grown-

up Adam Goldberg narrates tales of his 1980s boyhood in a Jewish family.

"This is the story of my family," begins the offscreen, real-life Eddie Huang (on whose memoir the series is based), and you could be forgiven for emitting a weary sigh.

But here's the good news: This is a funny show with likable characters portrayed by a cast of winning actors, all of which gives this "Boat" sufficient comic buoyancy.

As Louis, Randall Park radiates charm and optimism, even as his counterintuitively themed restaurant — Cattleman's Ranch Steakhouse — is struggling for life.

"I need to hire a white host," he reasons. "Instead

of people coming in and seeing a Chinese face and saying, 'Huh? I thought this was an Old West steakhouse,' they see a white face and say, 'Ahhh! Hello, white friend! I am comfortable.'"

Constance Wu plays his supportive but no-non-sense wife, who is full of understandable misgivings about her new home.

For one thing, she misses the boisterous Chinatown marketplace: "This is not how I like to shop," she laments on visiting a modern grocery. "This place looks like a hospital."

And when young Eddie brings home straight A's, his somewhat tigerish mom is far from satisfied. She complains to the school's principal that Eddie's classes are too easy.

As Eddie, newcomer Hudson Yang is adorable, as are Forrest Wheeler and Ian Chen as his younger brothers.

And gap-toothed comedian Paul Scheer is hilarious as Mitch, the restaurant's eager-beaver "white host."

Robin Williams' wife, children fight over his estate

SUDHIN THANAWALA Associated Press SAN FRANCISCO (AP) —

Robin Williams' children and wife have gone to court in a fight over the late comedian's estate.

In papers filed in December in San Francisco Superior Court, Williams' wife, Susan, says some of the late actor's personal items were taken without her permission and asks the court to exclude the contents of the Tiburon home that she shared with Williams from the jewelry, memorabilia and other items Williams said the children should have.

Williams died at his Tiburon home in August. The coroner ruled his death a suicide that resulted from asphyxia caused by hangina.

The children, Zachary, Zel-

da and Cody, counter that Susan Williams is "adding insult to a terrible injury" by trying to change the trust agreement and rob them of the late actor's clothing and other personal items.

"The Williams' children are heartbroken that Petitioner, Mr. Williams' wife of less than three years, has acted against his wishes by challenging the plans he so carefully made for his estate," attorneys for the children said in court papers.

The contents of the documents were first reported by the New York Times.

James Wagstaffe, an attorney for Susan Williams, said Monday his client was only seeking guidance from the court about the meaning of certain terms in the trust.

"This is not ugly," he said. "I

would not say this is anticipated to be a highly contested proceeding."

An attorney for the children, Allan Mayer, declined to comment.

Susan Williams has said the actor and comedian was struggling with depression, anxiety and a recent diagnosis of Parkinson's disease.

Williams had publicly acknowledged periodic struggles with substance abuse, and he had entered a substance abuse program shortly before his death. According to the coroner's report, his wife told an investigator that Williams did not go there because of recent drug or alcohol abuse, but rather to reaffirm the principles of his rehabilitation.

Williams' trust granted his children his memorabilia



In this Nov. 13, 2011 file photo, Susan Schneider, from left, Robin Williams, and Zelda Williams arrive at the premiere of "Happy Feet Two" at Grauman's Chinese Theater, in Los Angeles.

Associated Press

and awards in the entertainment industry and some other specific personal items, according to court documents. Susan Williams says that because he wanted her to continue to live at the Tiburon home, it makes sense that he intended only for his children to have the specific personal items he delineated that were kept at another home he owned in Napa.

"Any other interpretation would lead to Mrs. Williams' home being stripped while Mrs. Williams still lives there," her attorneys wrote.

The children dispute that interpretation, saying there were no specific limits on the location of those items. The two sides also disagree over items put in storage, watches Williams owned and his memorabilia.

Aruba_10DAY

Second Harper Lee novel to be published in July

HILLEL ITALIE

AP National Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — "To Kill a Mockingbird" will not be Harper Lee's only published book after all.

Publisher Harper announced Tuesday that "Go Set a Watchman," a novel the Pulitzer Prize-winning author completed in the 1950s and put aside, will be released July 14. Rediscovered last fall, "Go Set a Watchman" is essentially a sequel to "To Kill a Mockingbird," although it was finished earlier.

Reactions have ranged from a euphoric Oprah Winfrey, who issued a statement saying "I couldn't be happier if my name was Scout," to skepticism that the new book will be of the same quality as "Mockingbird." Lee biographer Charles J. Shields noted that Lee was a "beginning author" when she was writing "Watchman."

The 304-page book will be Lee's second, and the first new work in more than 50 years, among the longest gaps in history for a major writer. The publisher plans a first printing of 2 million copies.

"In the mid-1950s, I completed a novel called 'Go Set a Watchman,'" the 88-year-old Lee said in a statement issued by Harper. "It features the character known as Scout as an adult woman, and I thought it a pretty decent effort. My editor, who was taken by the flashbacks to Scout's childhood, persuaded me to write a novel (what became 'To Kill a Mockingbird') from the point of view of the young Scout.

"I was a first-time writer, so I did as I was told. I hadn't realized it (the original book) had survived, so was surprised and delighted when my dear friend and lawyer Tonja Carter discovered it. After much thought and hesitation, I shared it with a handful of people I trust and was pleased to hear that they considered it worthy of publication. I am humbled and amazed that



In this Aug. 20, 2007, file photo, Harper Lee, author of the Pulitzer Prize-winning novel, "To kill a Mockingbird," smiles during a ceremony honoring the four new members of the Alabama Academy of Honor at the Capitol in Montgomery, Ala.

Associated Press this will now be published after all these years."

Financial terms were not disclosed. The deal was negotiated between Carter and the head of Harper's parent company, Michael Morrison of HarperCollins Publishers. "Watchman" will be published in the United Kingdom by William Heinemann, an imprint of Penguin Random House.

According to publisher Harper, Carter came upon the manuscript at a "secure location where it had been affixed to an original typescript of 'To Kill a Mockingbird." The new book is set in Lee's famed Maycomb, Alabama, during the mid-1950s, 20 years after "To Kill a Mockingbird" and roughly contemporaneous with the time that Lee was writing the story. The civil rights movement was taking hold in her home state. The Supreme Court had ruled unanimously in 1954 that segregated schools were unconstitutional, and the arrest of Rosa Parks in 1955 led to the yearlong Montgomery bus boycott.

"Scout (Jean Louise Finch) has returned to Maycomb from New York to visit her father, Atticus," the publisher's announcement reads. "She is forced to grapple with issues both personal and political as she tries to understand her father's at-

titude toward society, and her own feelings about the place where she was born and spent her childhood." Lee herself is a Monroeville. Alabama native who lived in New York in the 1950s and returned to her hometown. According to the publisher, the book will be released as she first wrote it, with no revisions. By midday Tuesday, "Watchman" was in the top 20 on Barnes & Noble. com. Independent sellers also expect strong interest. "To a lot of us in bookselling, 'To Kill A Mockingbird' remains one of our all-time favorite books and it sure is exciting to know we are about to learn more of the story," said Oren Teicher, CEO of the American Booksellers Association, the trade group for the country's independent stores.

Shields, whose "Mocking-bird: A Portrait of Harper Lee" came out in 2006, said that "Mockingbird" had required extensive editing and doubted that "Watchman" has "the tight structure" of her other book.

"But if we have any of her voice, her compassion for people and her message about understanding the other in there, we'll have a very fine work," Shields said. "To Kill a Mockingbird" is among the most beloved novels in history, with worldwide sales topping 40 million copies. It was released on July 11, 1960, won the Pulitzer Prize and was adapted into a 1962 movie of the same name, starring Gregory Peck in an Oscarwinning performance as the courageous attorney Atticus Finch. Robert Duvall, who played the reclusive Boo Radley in the movie, issued a statement Tuesday saying that the film was a "pivotal point" for him and he was "looking forward" to the new book.

Although occasionally banned over the years because of its language and racial themes, "Mocking-bird" has become a standard for reading clubs and middle schools and high schools.



In this 1962 file photo originally released by Universal, actor Gregory Peck is shown as attorney Atticus Finch, a small-town Southern lawyer who defends a black man accused of rape, in a scene from "To Kill a Mockingbird," based on the novel by Harper Lee.

Associated Press

Harper Lee book could also mean a 'Mockingbird' movie sequel

JAKE COYLE

AP Film Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — The movie version of "To Kill a Mockingbird" is the rare adaptation as beloved as its source material.

So when Harper Lee and her publisher announced Tuesday that this summer they'll release the 88-year-old author's second book, "Go Set the Watchmen," a kind of sequel to "To Kill a Mockingbird," the shockwaves were felt almost as much in Hollywood as they were in the book world.

The movies, after all, love a sequel. And rare is the chance to follow up one of the most iconic American films, half a century later

films, half a century later. If Lee agrees to sell the movie rights of her new book, it can be expected to be one of the most eagerly sought novels for optioning to the big screen. Particularly since Lee said Tuesday that "Go Set the Watchman" follows her young heroine, Scout, into adulthood, it's sure to be feverishly pursued by producers. It's likely to spark a bidding war well before it lands on book shelves July 14.

Such an opportunity could draw in a host of highprofile producers. Oprah Winfrey, for one, has called "To Kill a Mockingbird" her favorite book. (In a statement Tuesday, she said: "I couldn't be happier if my name was Scout.")

Starring Gregory Peck and featuring a young Robert Duvall as Boo Radley, "To Kill a Mockingbird" has regularly been ranked among the greatest American movies. It won three Oscars, including actor for Peck and bestadapted screenplay for Horton Foote. In 1995, it was added to the National Film Registry, and in 2003 the American Film Institute listed Peck's Atticus Finch as the greatest movie hero of the 20th century.

"Congratulations to Harper Lee," Duvall staid in a statement Tuesday. "I am looking forward to reading the book. The film was a pivotal point in my career and we all have been waiting for the second book."

Mary Badham, who was Oscar nominated at age 10 for her performance as Scout, only acted in a handful of films and TV shows after "To Kill a Mockingbird." Almost 40 years after her last film, she came out of retirement to appear in the 2005 indie drama "Out Very Own." Badham didn't respond to requests for comment Tuesday.



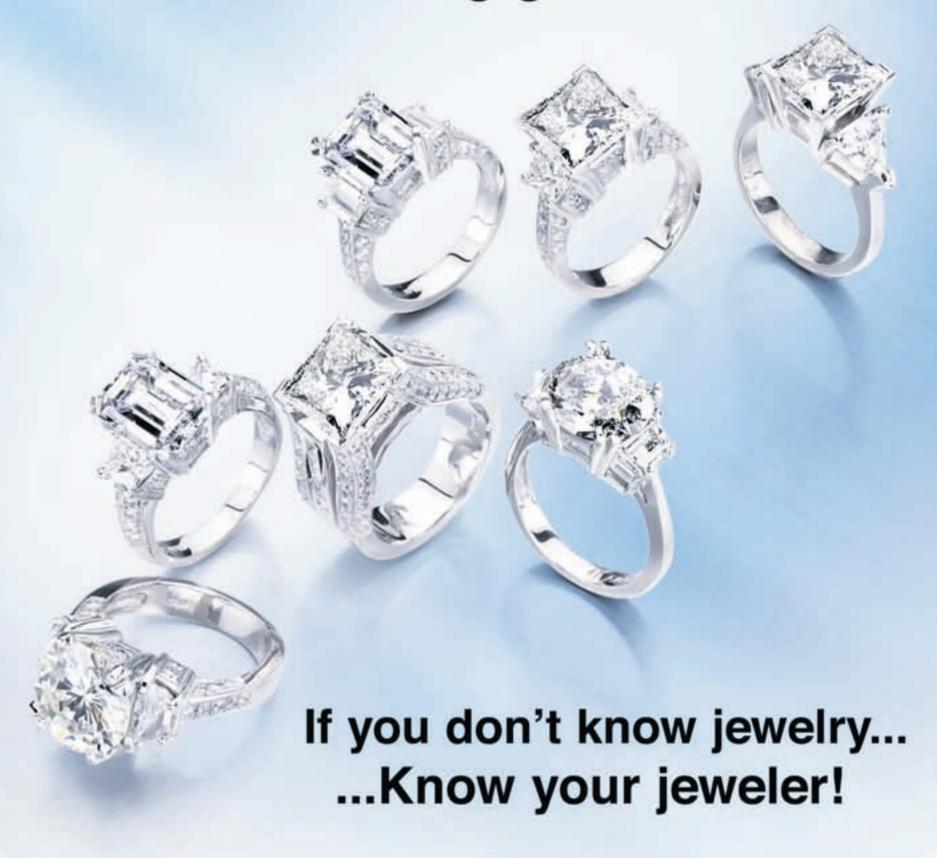


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